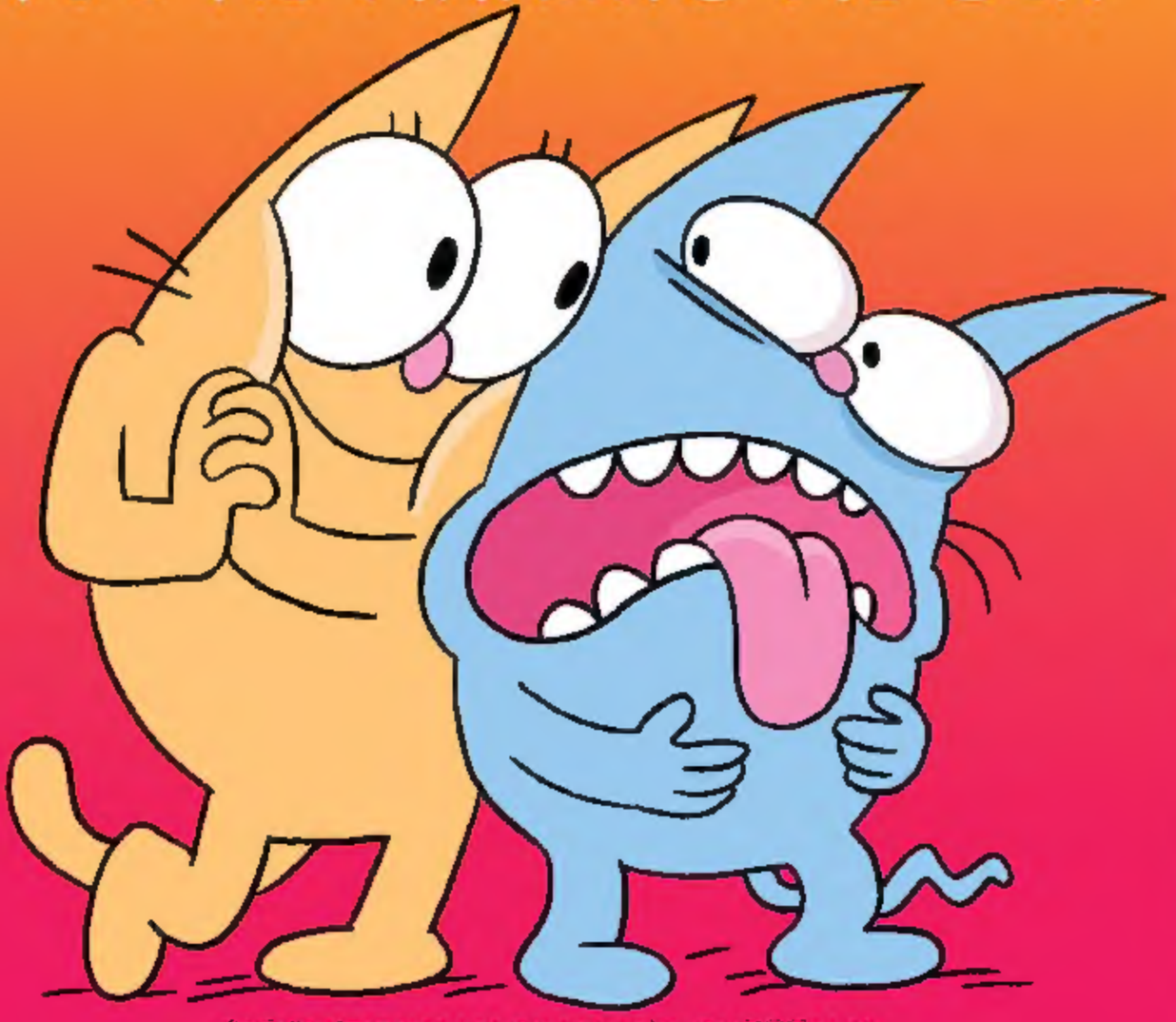
FROM *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR

JIM BENTON

CATWAD

YOU'RE MAKING ME SIX



"SENSATIONALLY SILLY AND SURREAL!"
—DAV PILKEY, CREATOR OF DOG MAN

SCHOLASTIC

YOU'RE MAKING ME SIX

For Dick Robinson

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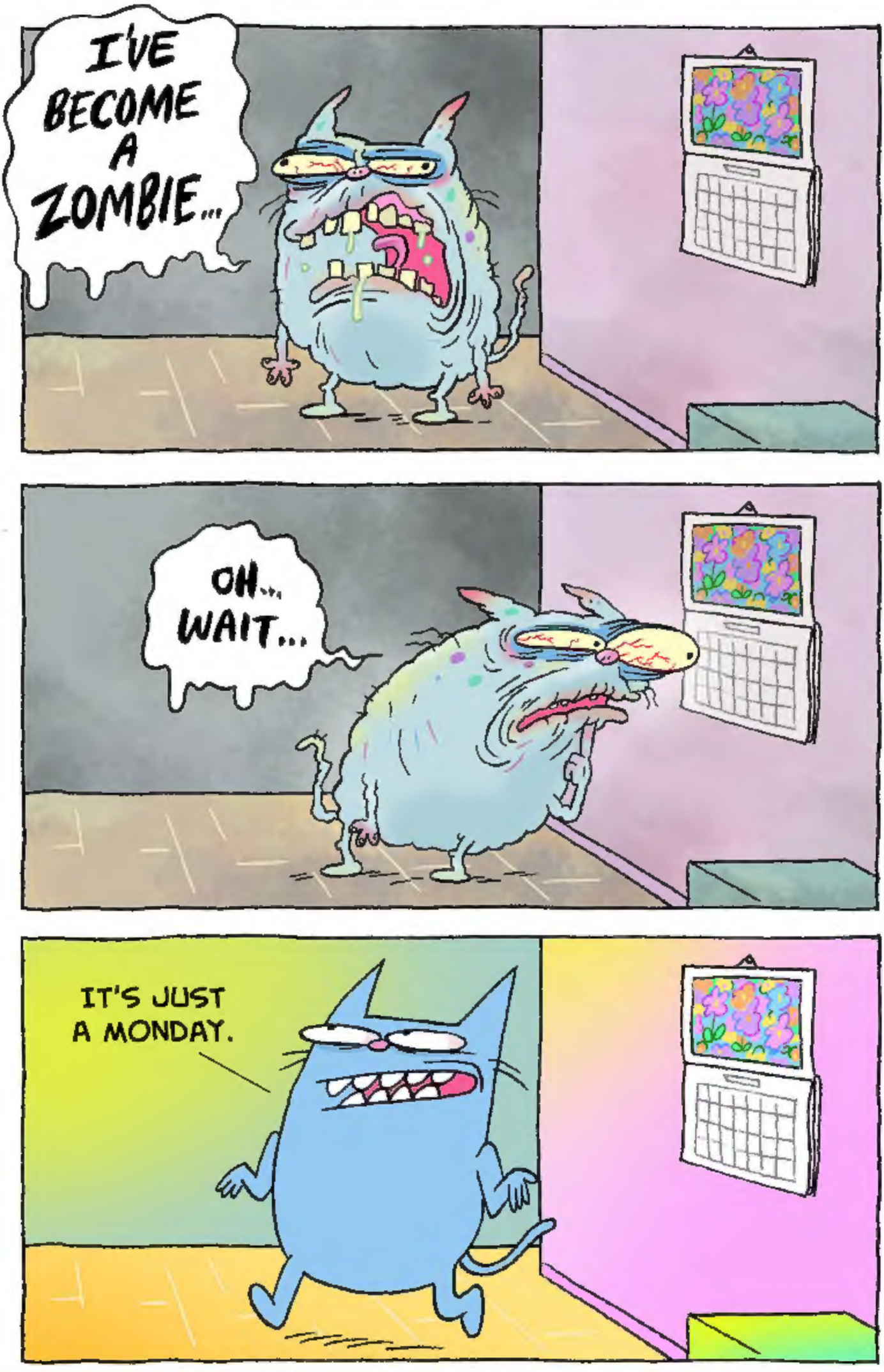
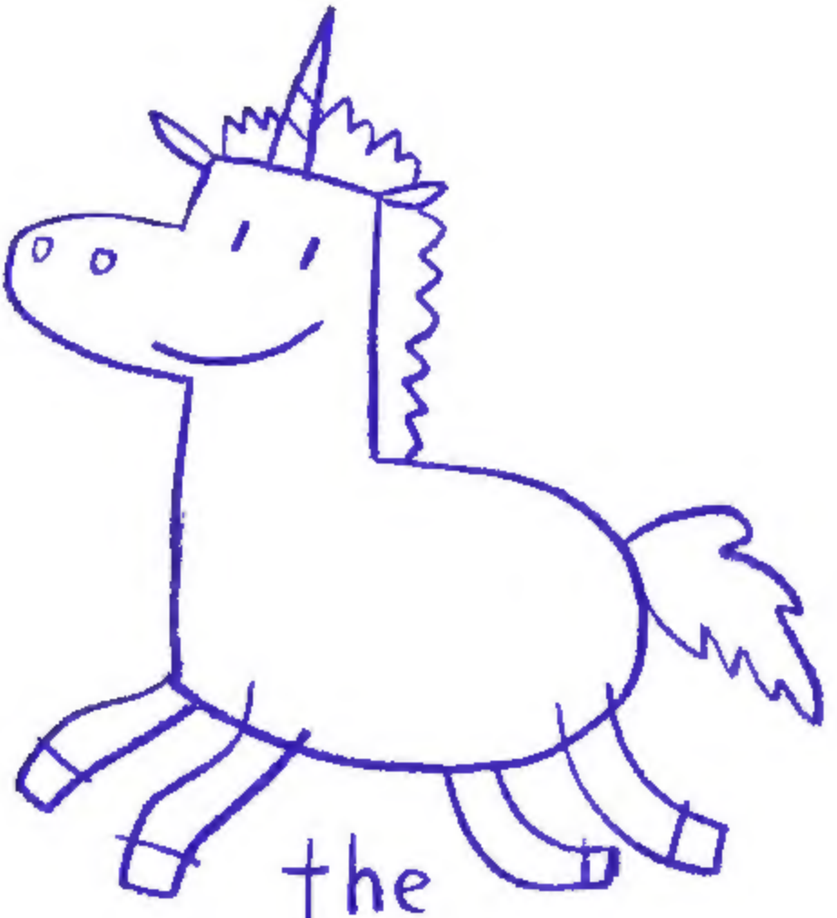
IT
WALKS

UUUGGH...
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME??
THESE DULL, BLANK EYES...
YUCK! MY BREATH...
...SMELLS LIKE SOMETHING DIED IN MY MOUTH.

I CAN BARELY WALK...

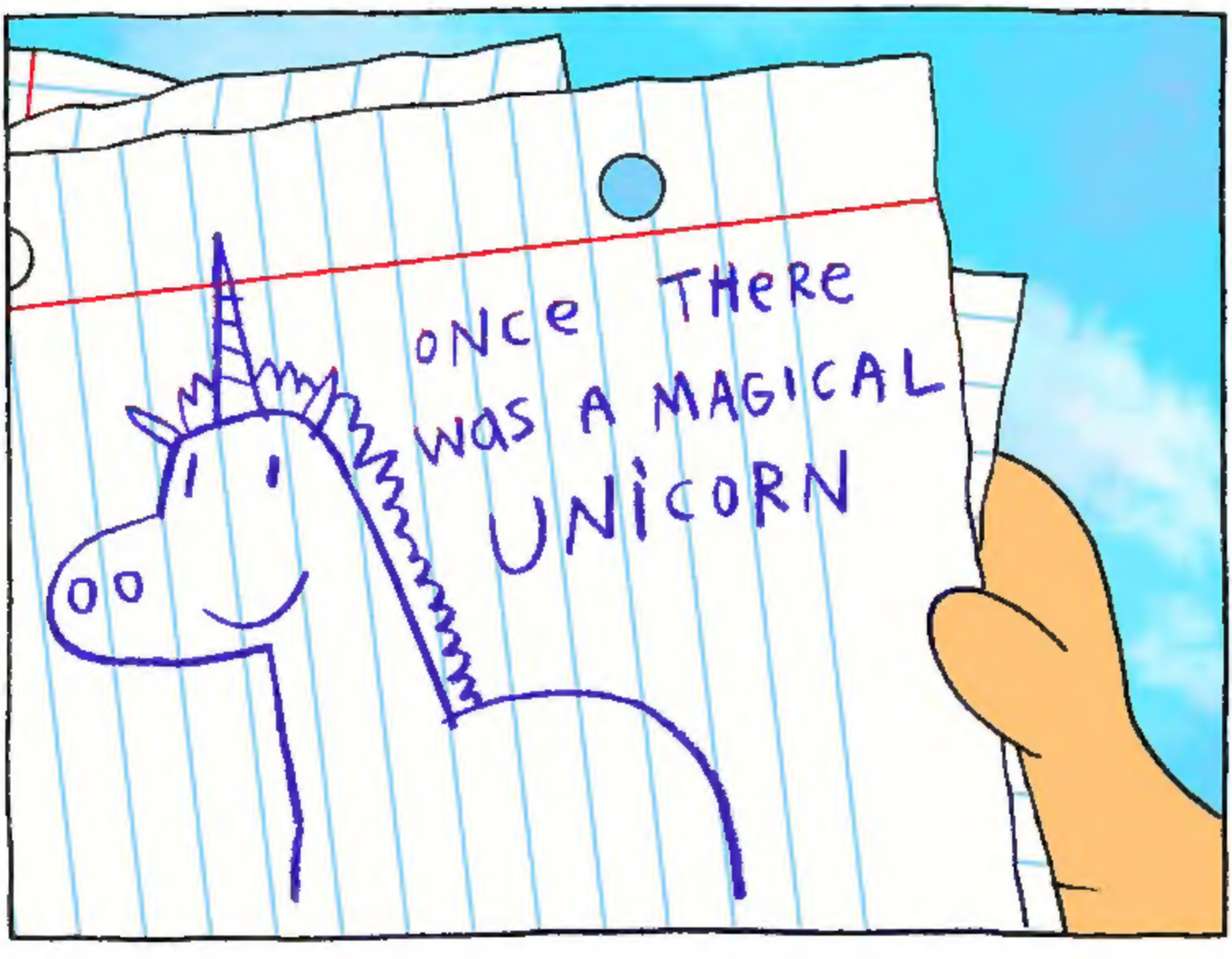
MY VOICE CREAKS LIKE THE FRONT DOOR OF A HAUNTED HOUSE...

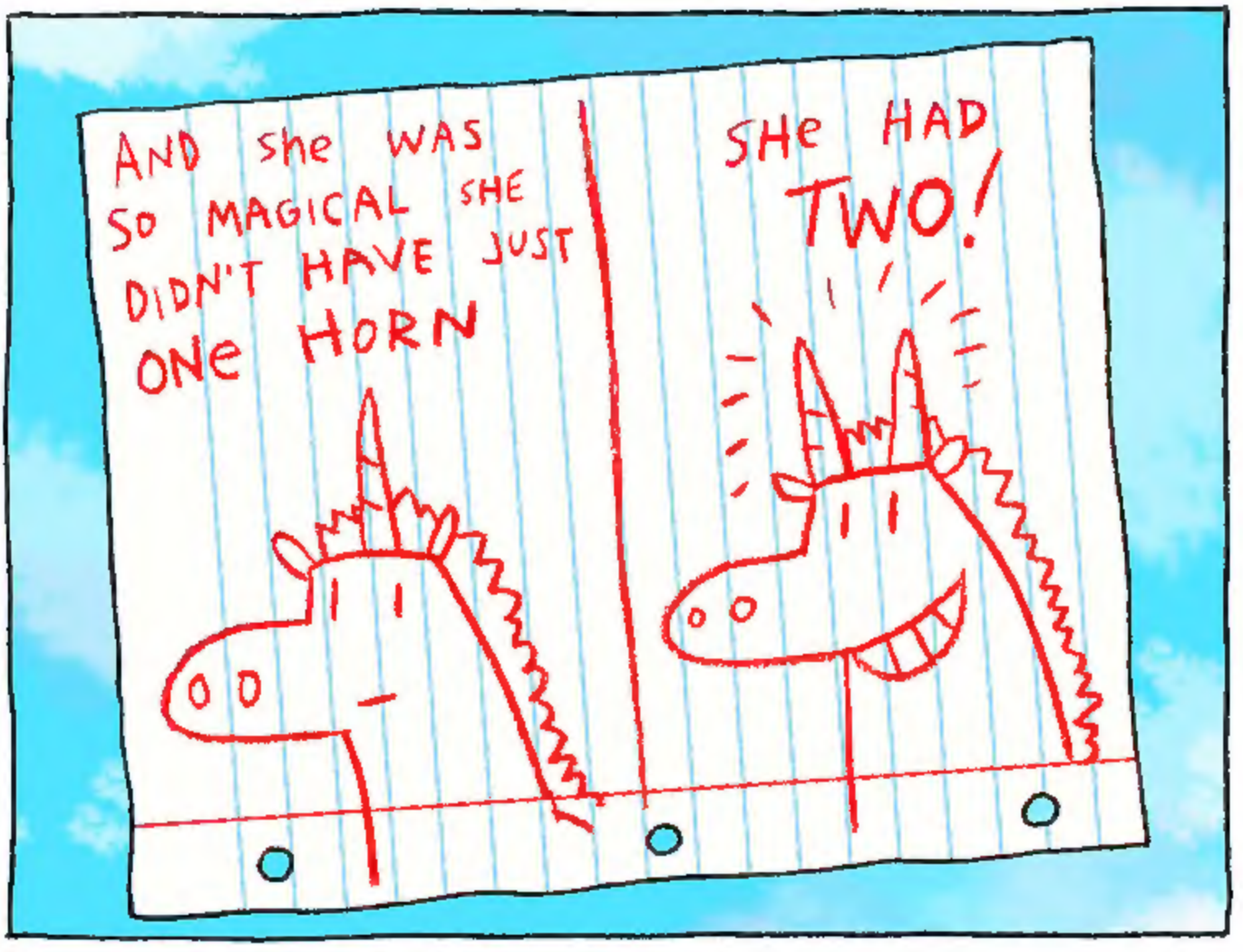

I'VE BECOME A ZOMBIE...
OH... WAIT...
IT'S JUST A MONDAY.



the MAGICAL UNICORN

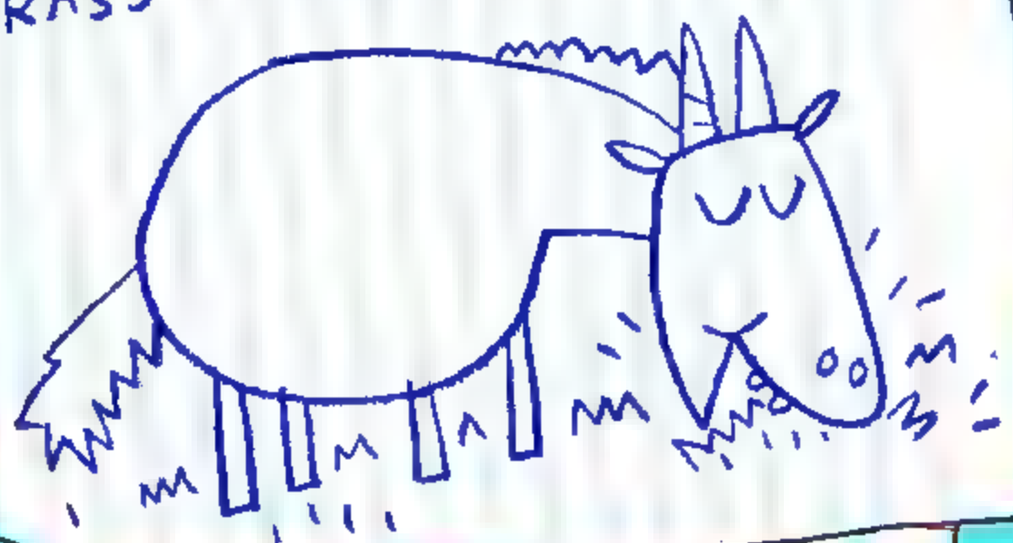
TELL ME WHAT YOU THINK OF THIS STORY I MADE.


ONCE THERE WAS A MAGICAL UNICORN

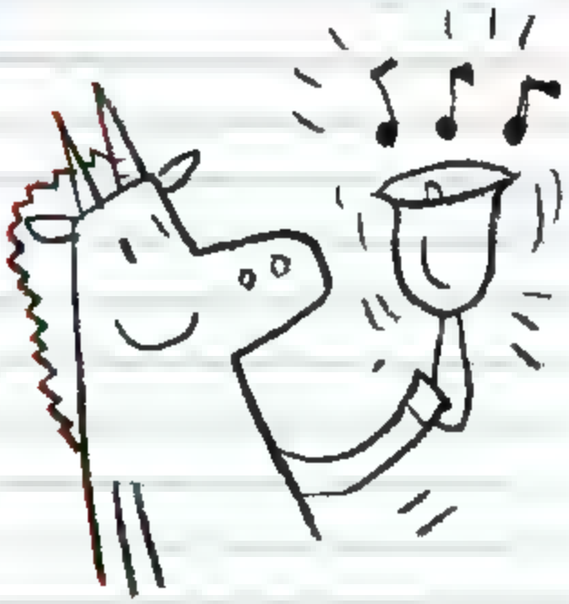

AND she WAS SO MAGICAL SHE DIDN'T HAVE JUST ONE HORN
SHe HAD TWO!

SHe WAS Nice AND CHUBBY!

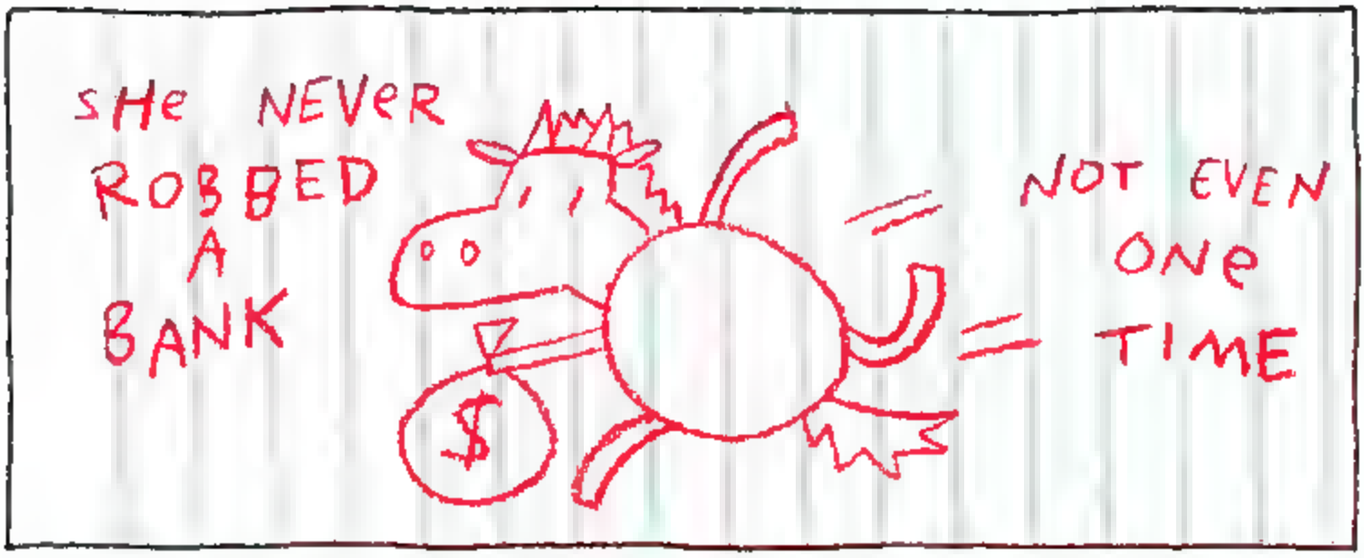
SHE TOOK GOOD CARE OF HERSELF BY EATING HEALTHY GRASS SALADS ALL THE TIME

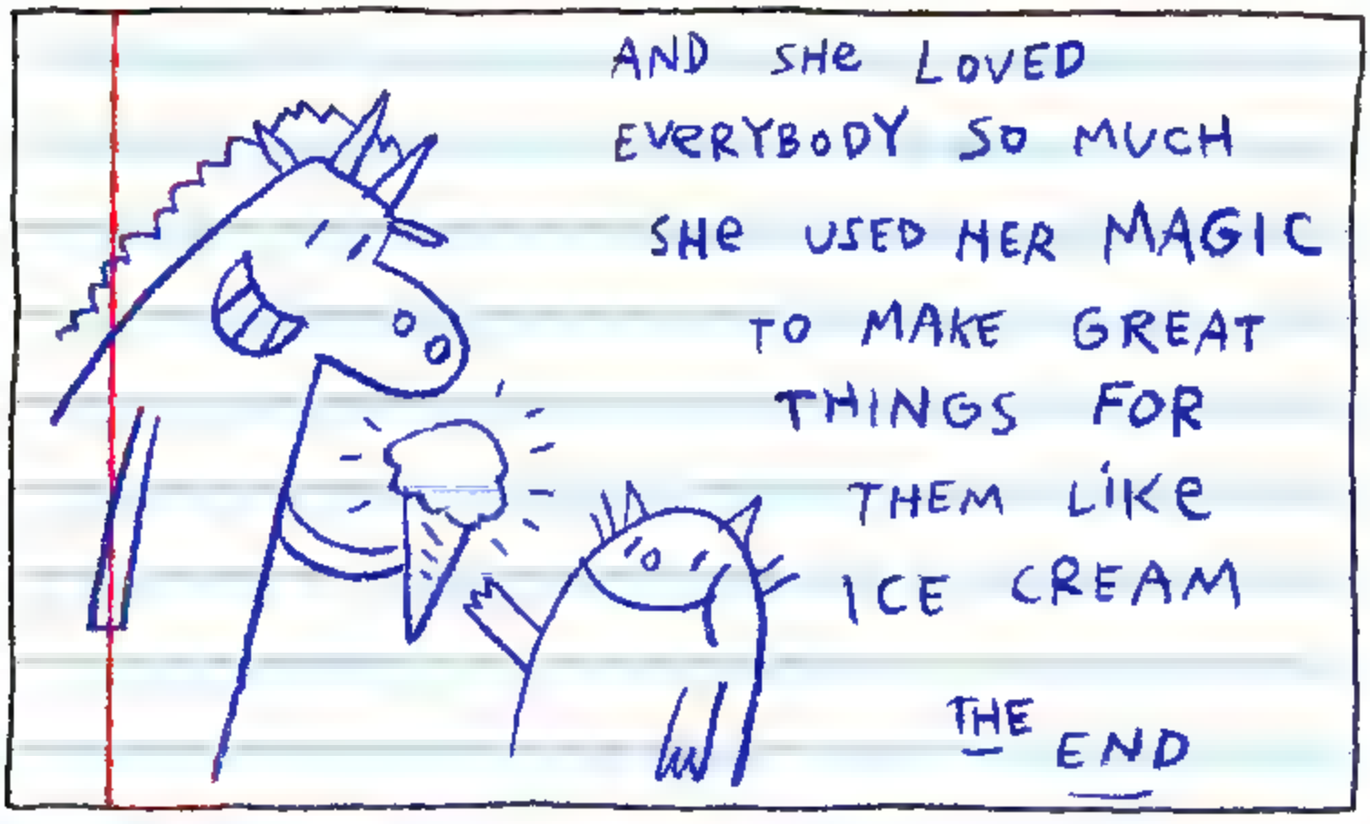


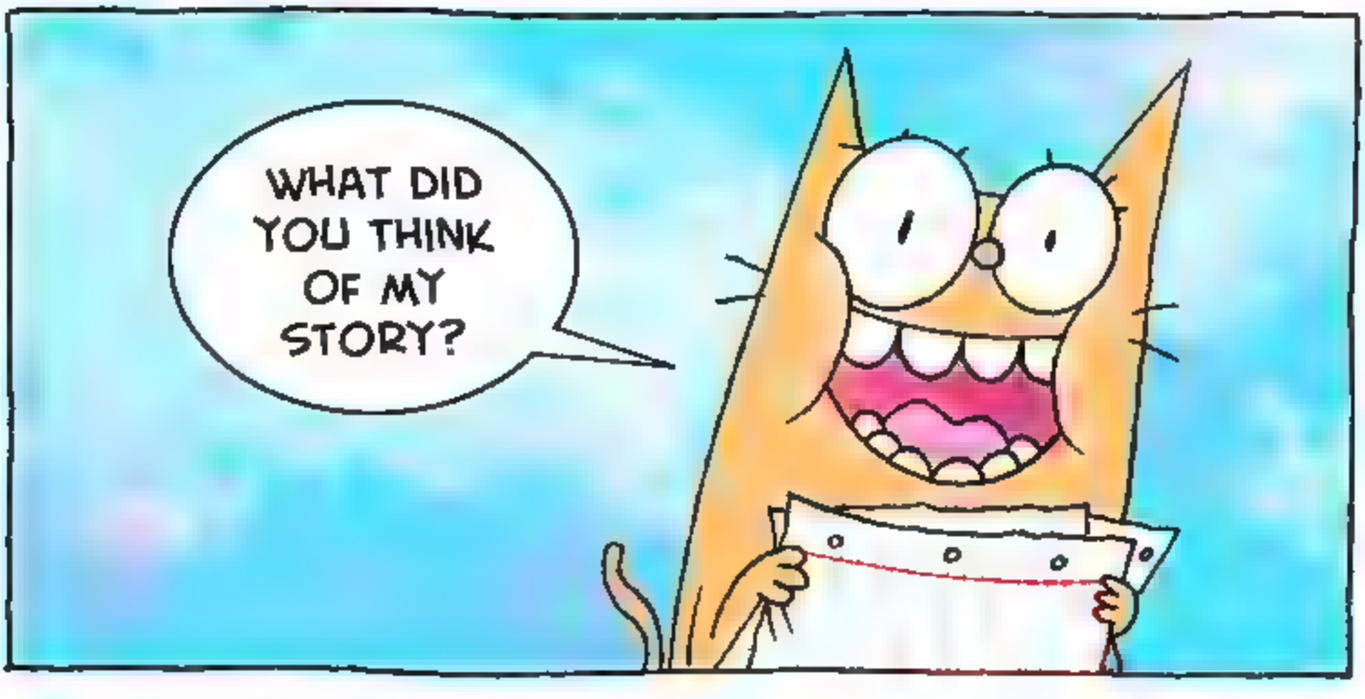
AND SHE ALWAYS CHEWED SLOWLY AND POLITELY



SHE LOVED MUSIC SO MUCH SHE SOFTLY PLAYED A BELL WHEREVER SHE WENT

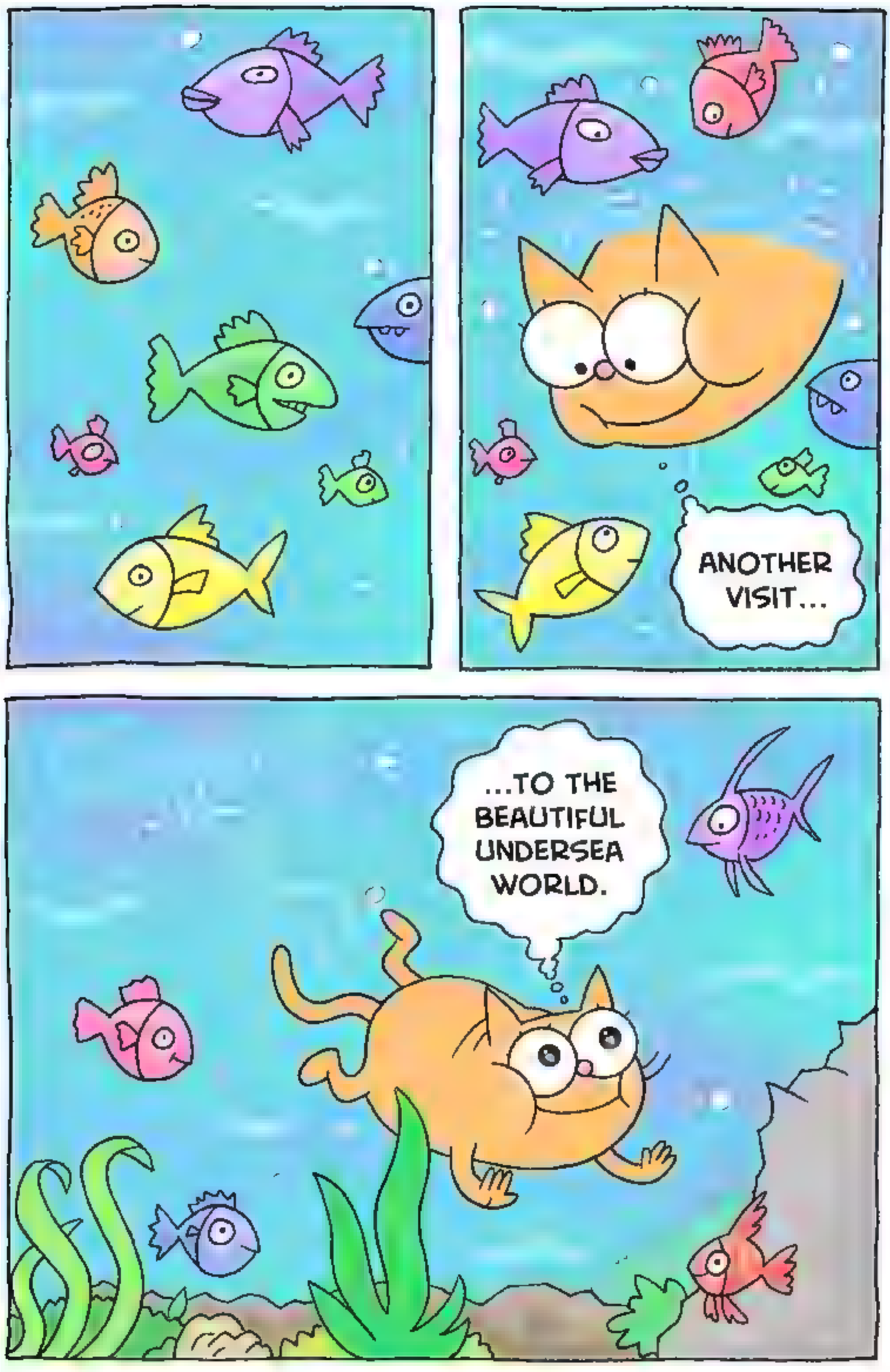

SHE NEVER ROBBED A BANK
$
NOT EVEN ONE TIME

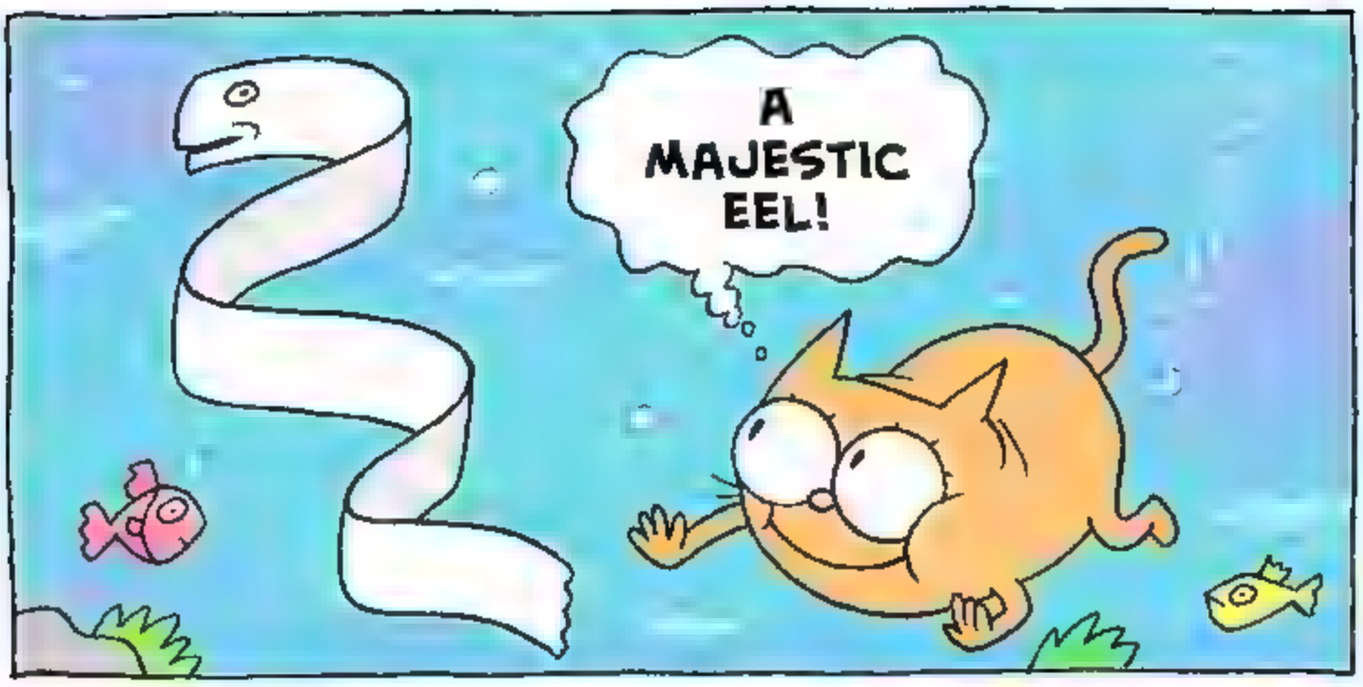

AND SHE LOVED EVERYBODY SO MUCH SHE USED HER MAGIC TO MAKE GREAT THINGS FOR THEM LIKE ICE CREAM
THE END

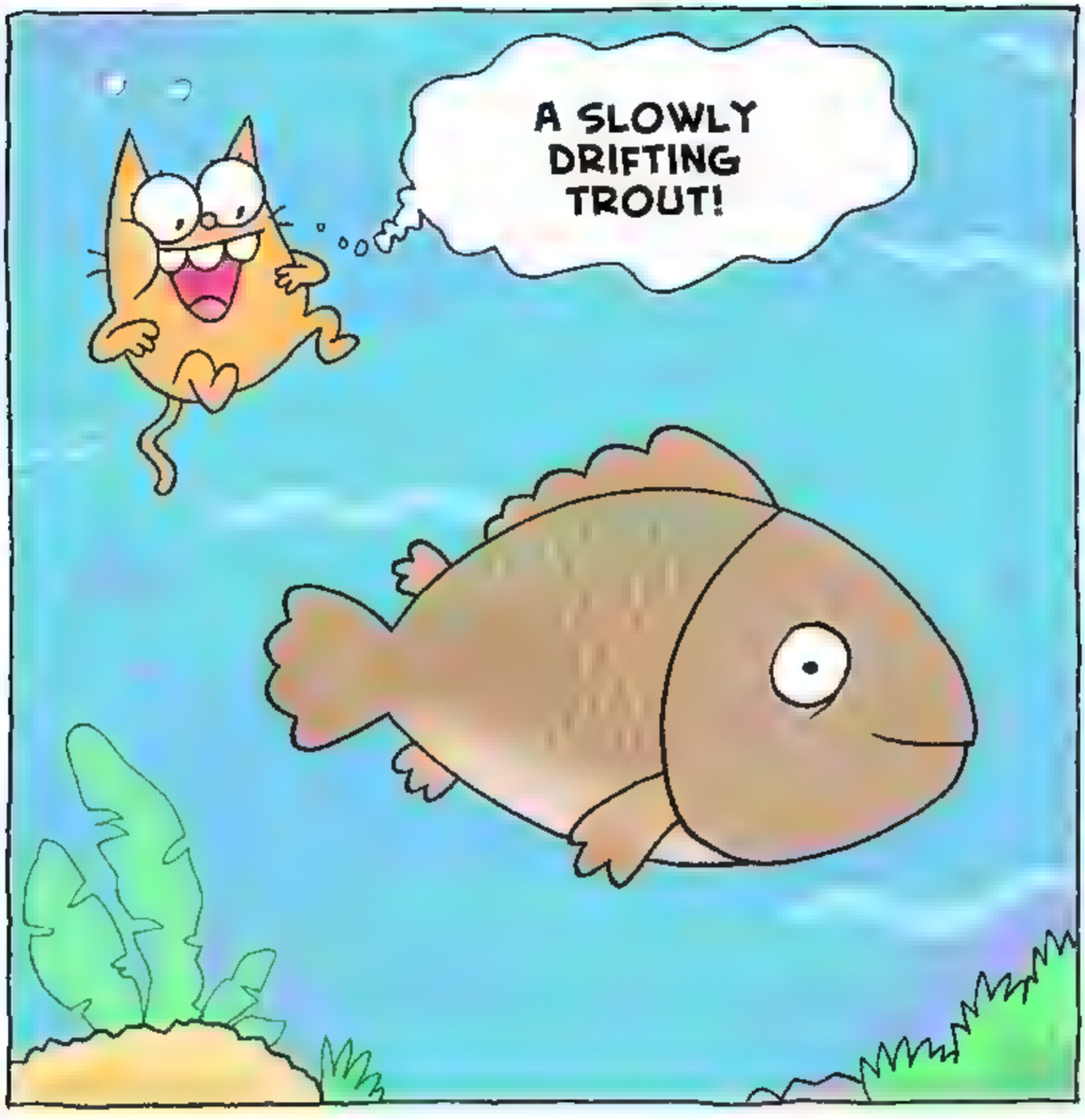

WHAT DID YOU THINK OF MY STORY?

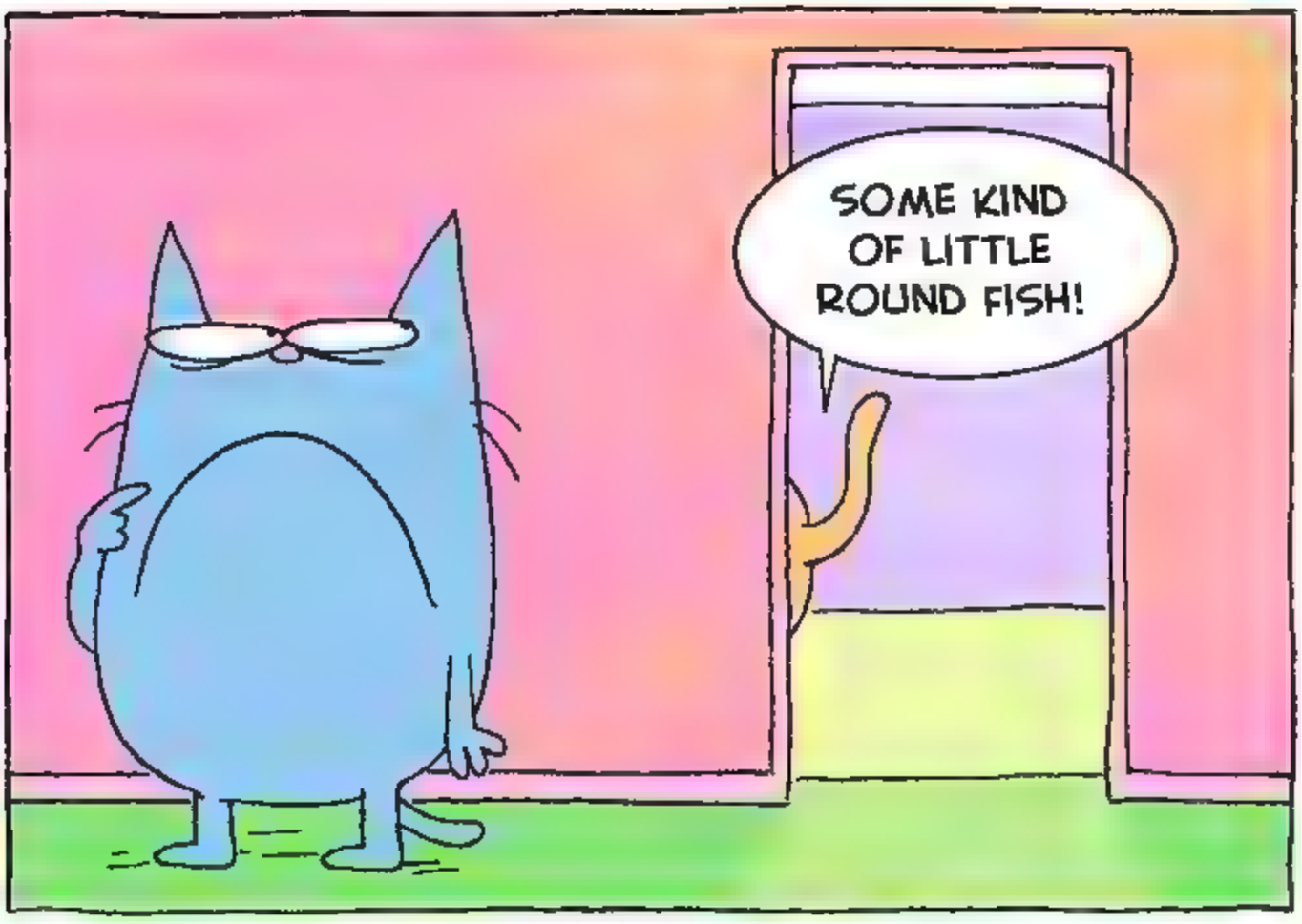
IT'S THE BEST STORY I EVER HEARD.

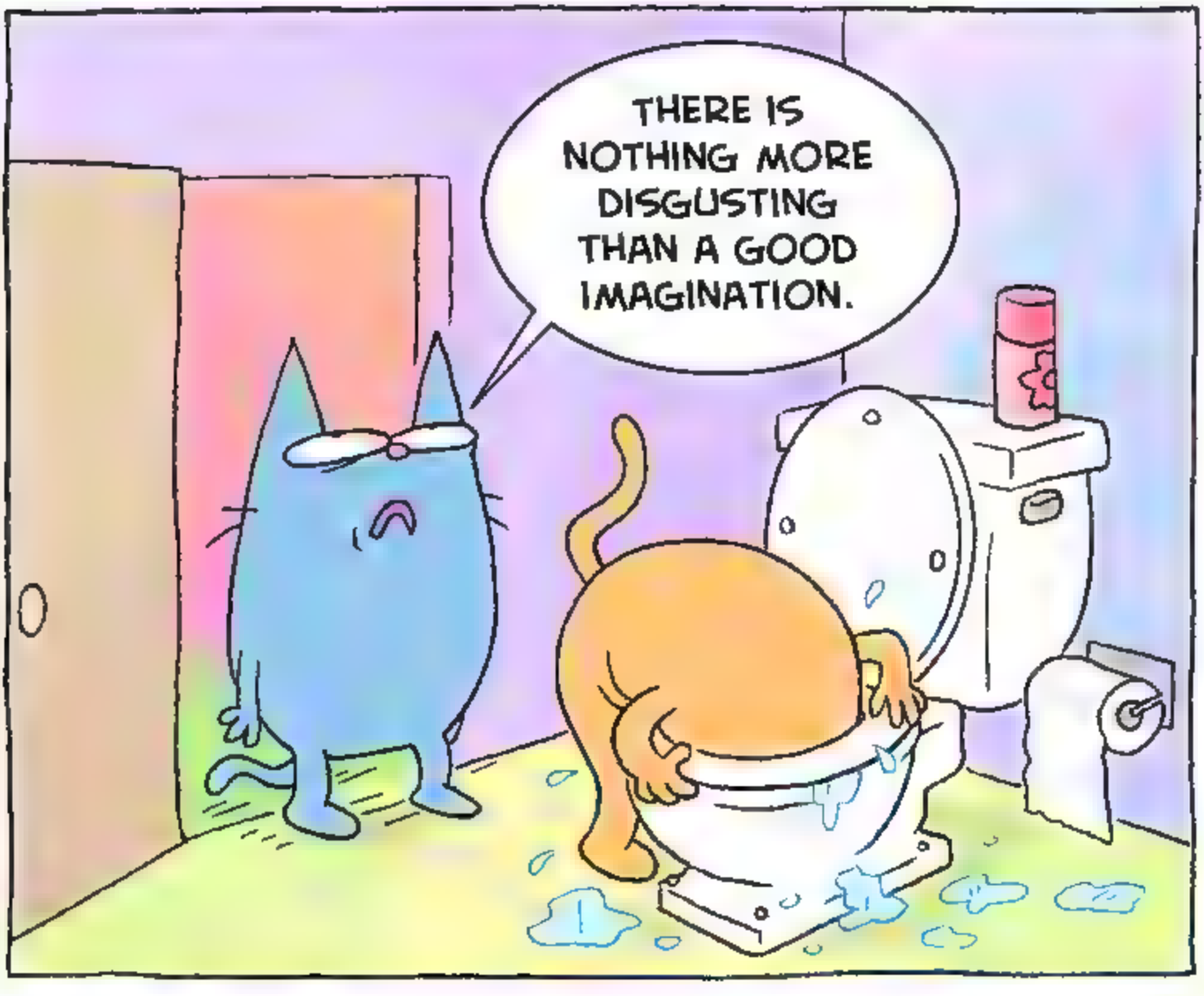
BEAUTY


ANOTHER VISIT...
...TO THE BEAUTIFUL UNDERSEA WORLD.

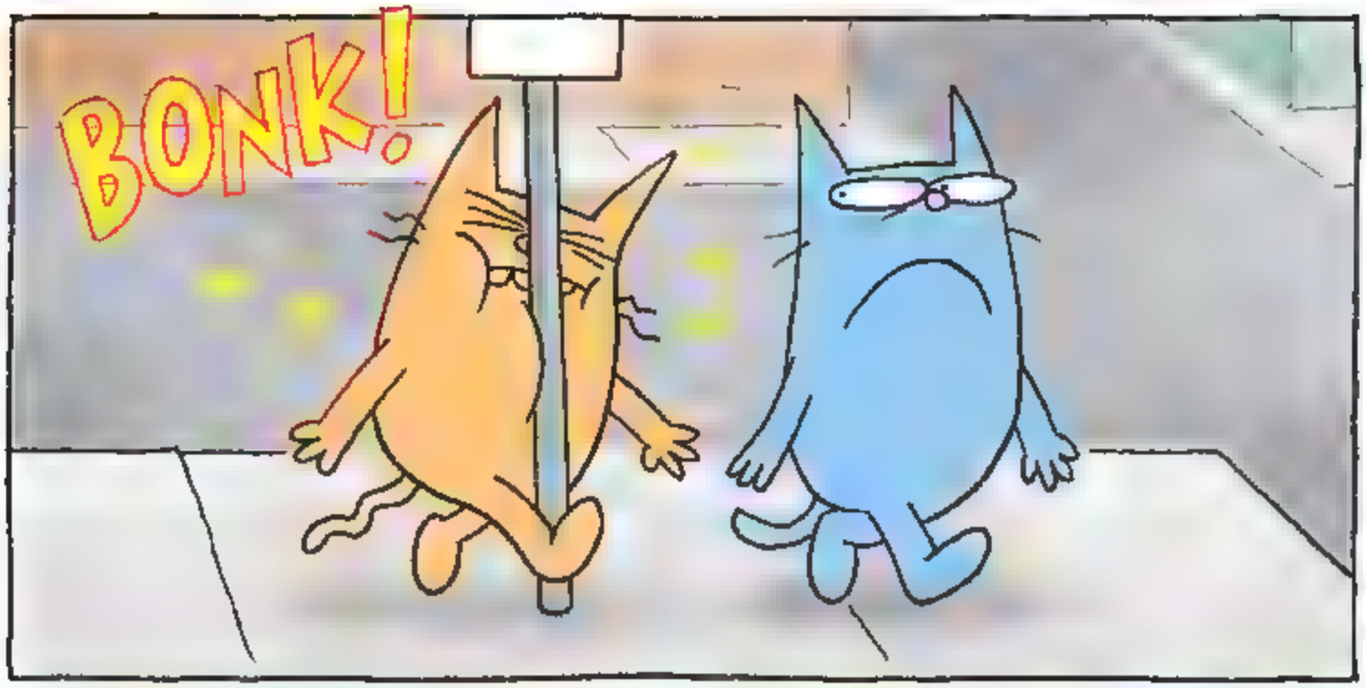

A MAJESTIC EEL!


A SLOWLY DRIFTING TROUT!

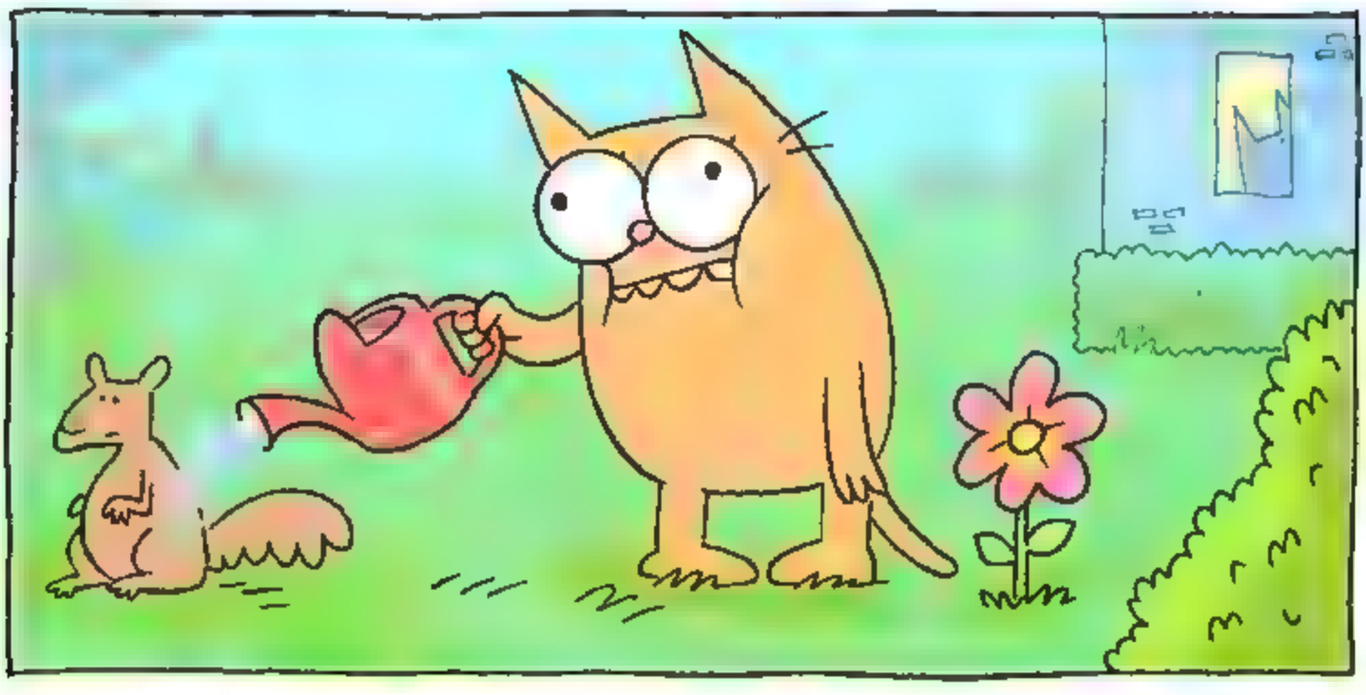

SOME KIND OF LITTLE ROUND FISH!


THERE IS NOTHING MORE DISGUSTING THAN A GOOD IMAGINATION.

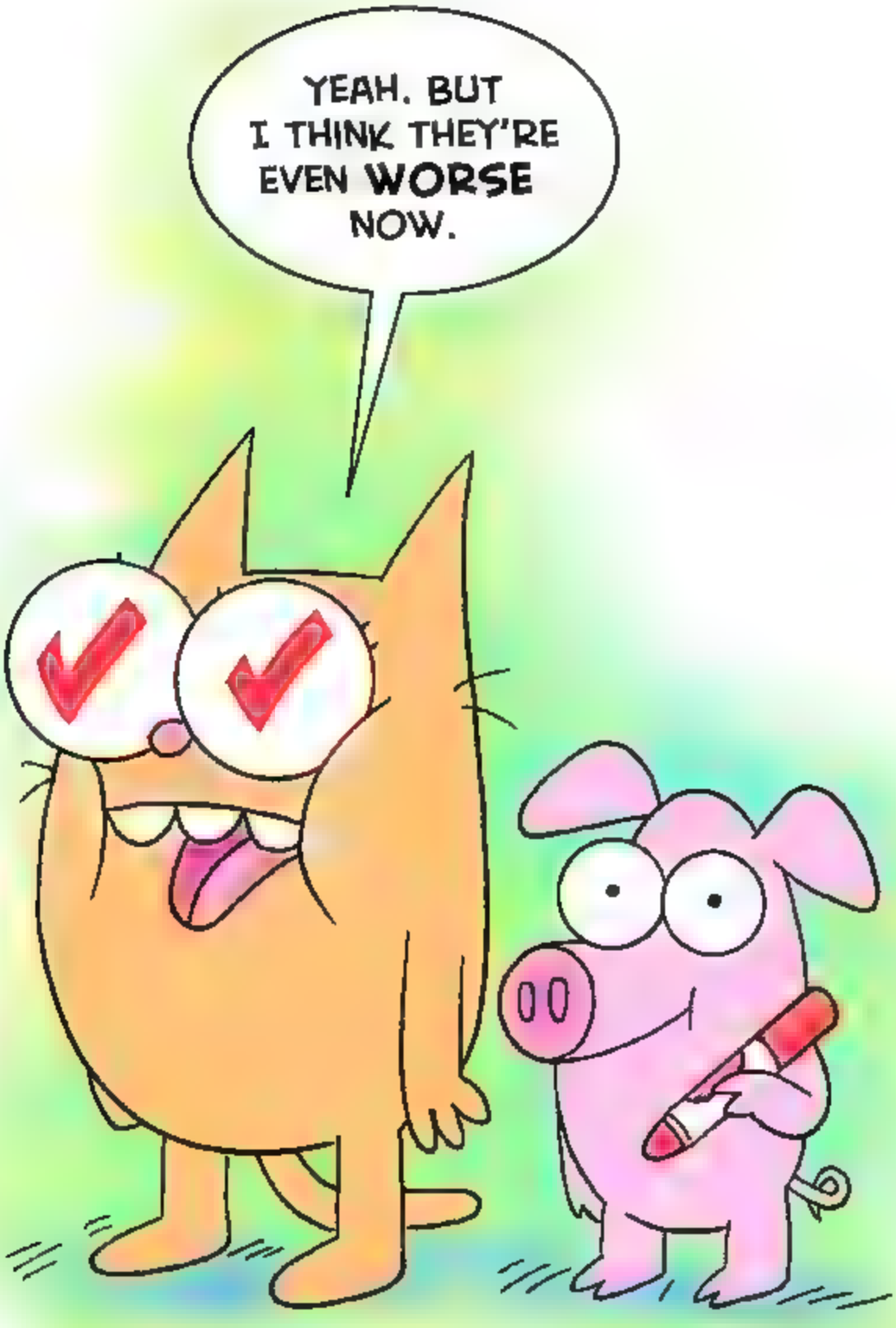
EYES

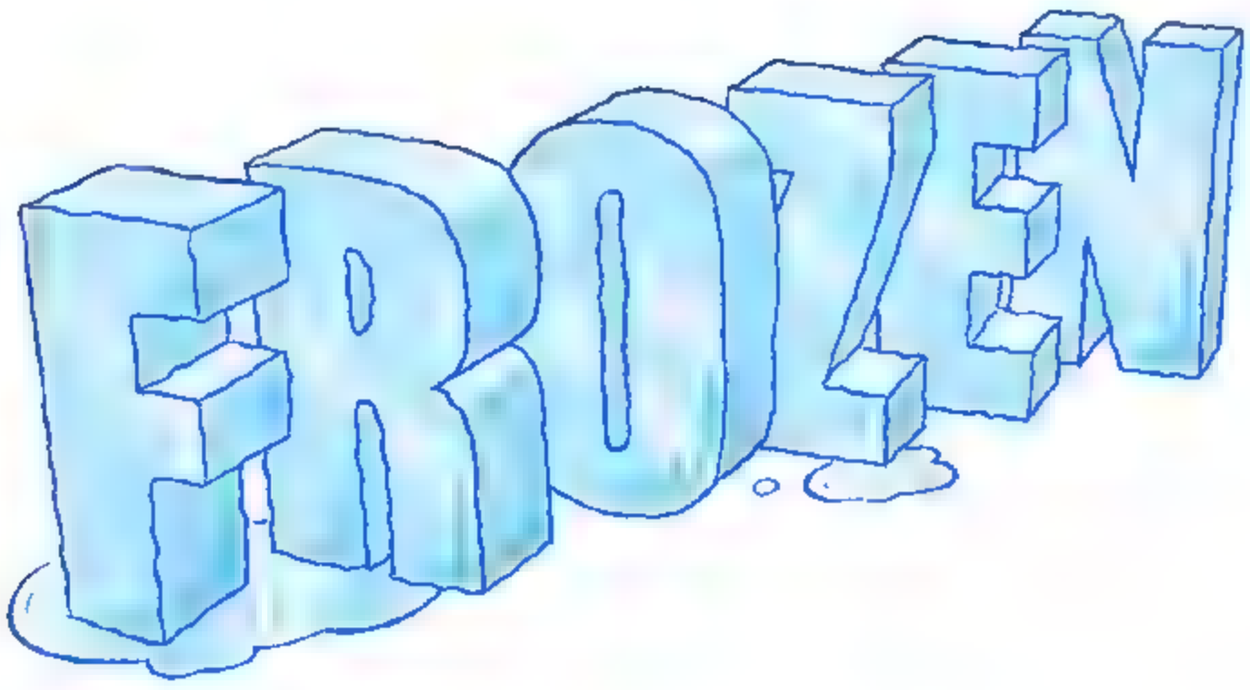

BONK!

ULTRA BRO COMICS

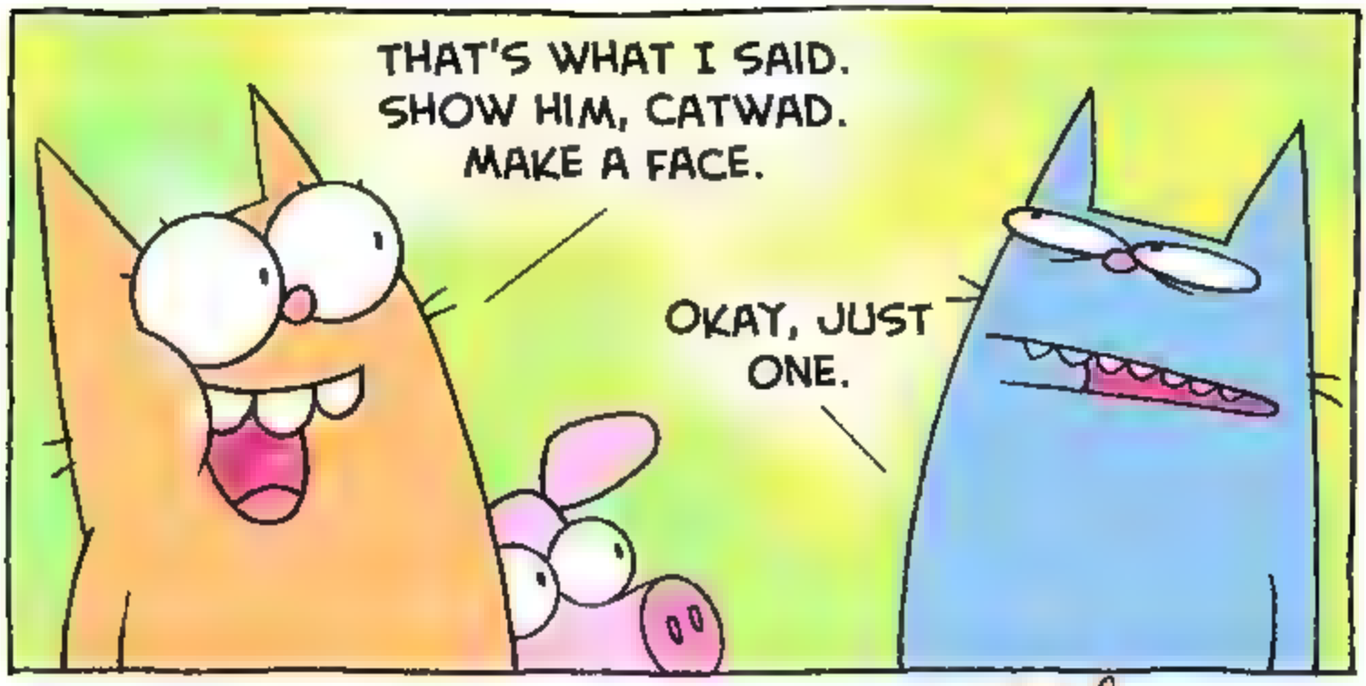


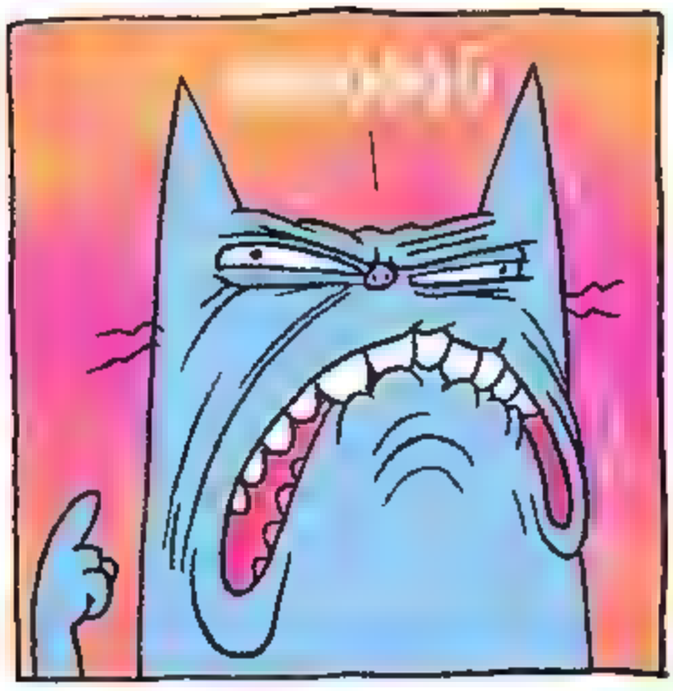
BLURMP, I THINK YOU NEED TO HAVE YOUR EYES CHECKED.
OKAY.
SLAM!
CATWAD, I'M BACK!
THAT WAS FAST.
PIGMICHAEL CHECKED THEM.
WHAT?


YEAH. BUT I THINK THEY'RE EVEN WORSE NOW.


FROZEN

WATCH THIS FACE I CAN MAKE!
DON'T DO THAT! MY MOM SAYS YOUR FACE COULD FREEZE LIKE THAT.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.

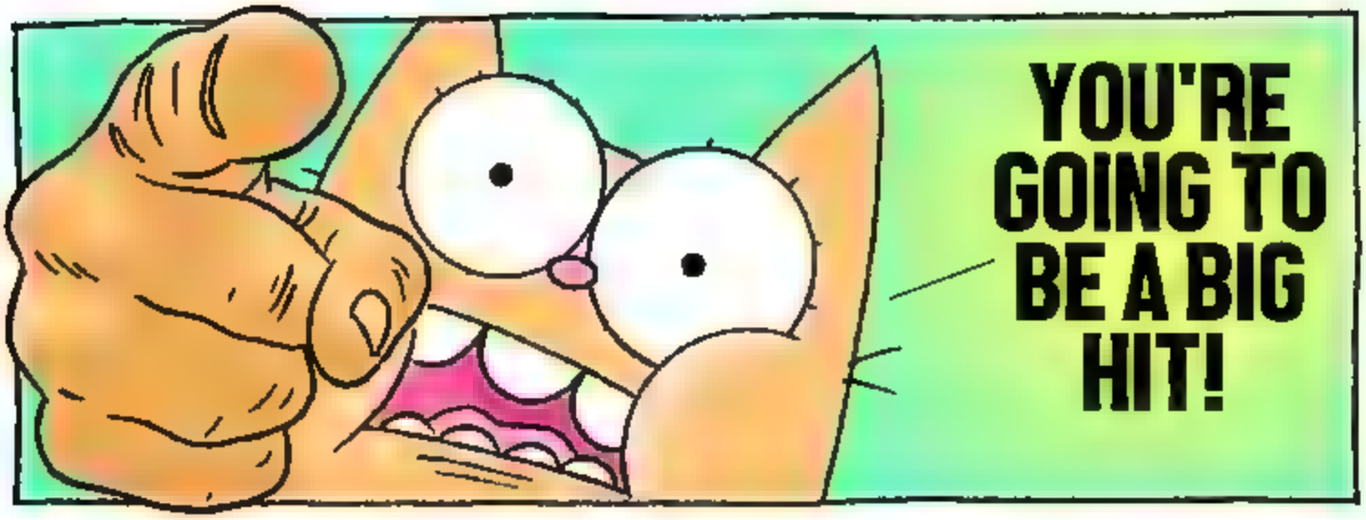

THAT'S WHAT I SAID. SHOW HIM, CATWAD. MAKE A FACE.
OKAY, JUST ONE.



POP!

HA HA HA

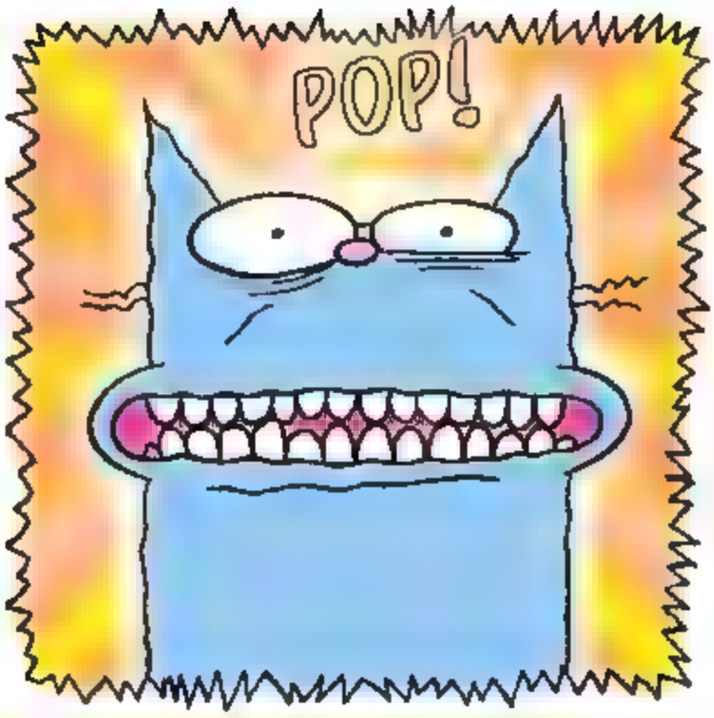
MY FACE FROZE!
OH MY GOSH. HE'S EVEN CUTER WHEN HE'S SAD!
I LIKE HIM WAY BETTER LIKE THIS.
I CAN'T LIVE LIKE THIS!
DON'T WORRY. I'LL HELP YOU.



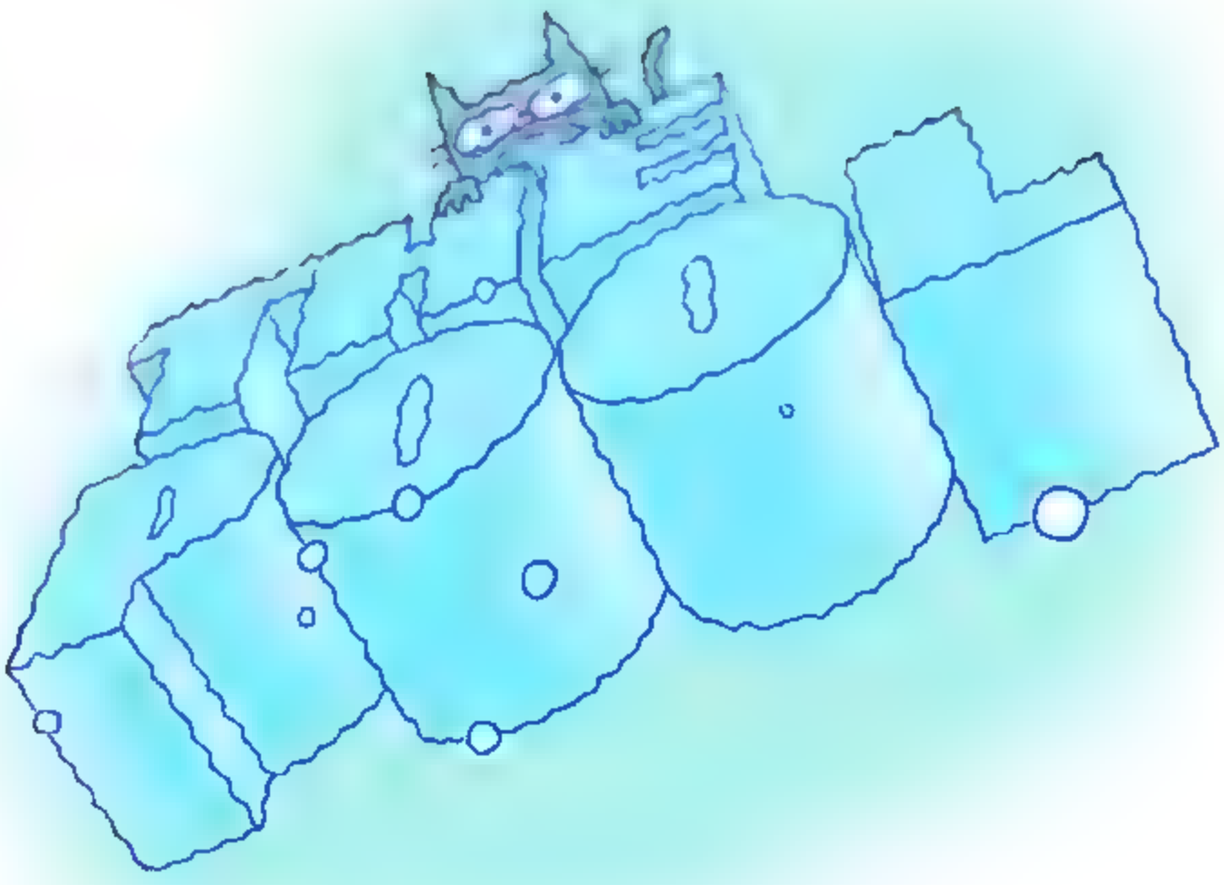
They'll want you to advertise diapers!

And baby food!

Old ladies will pay five dollars to pinch your adorable cheeks!


POP!

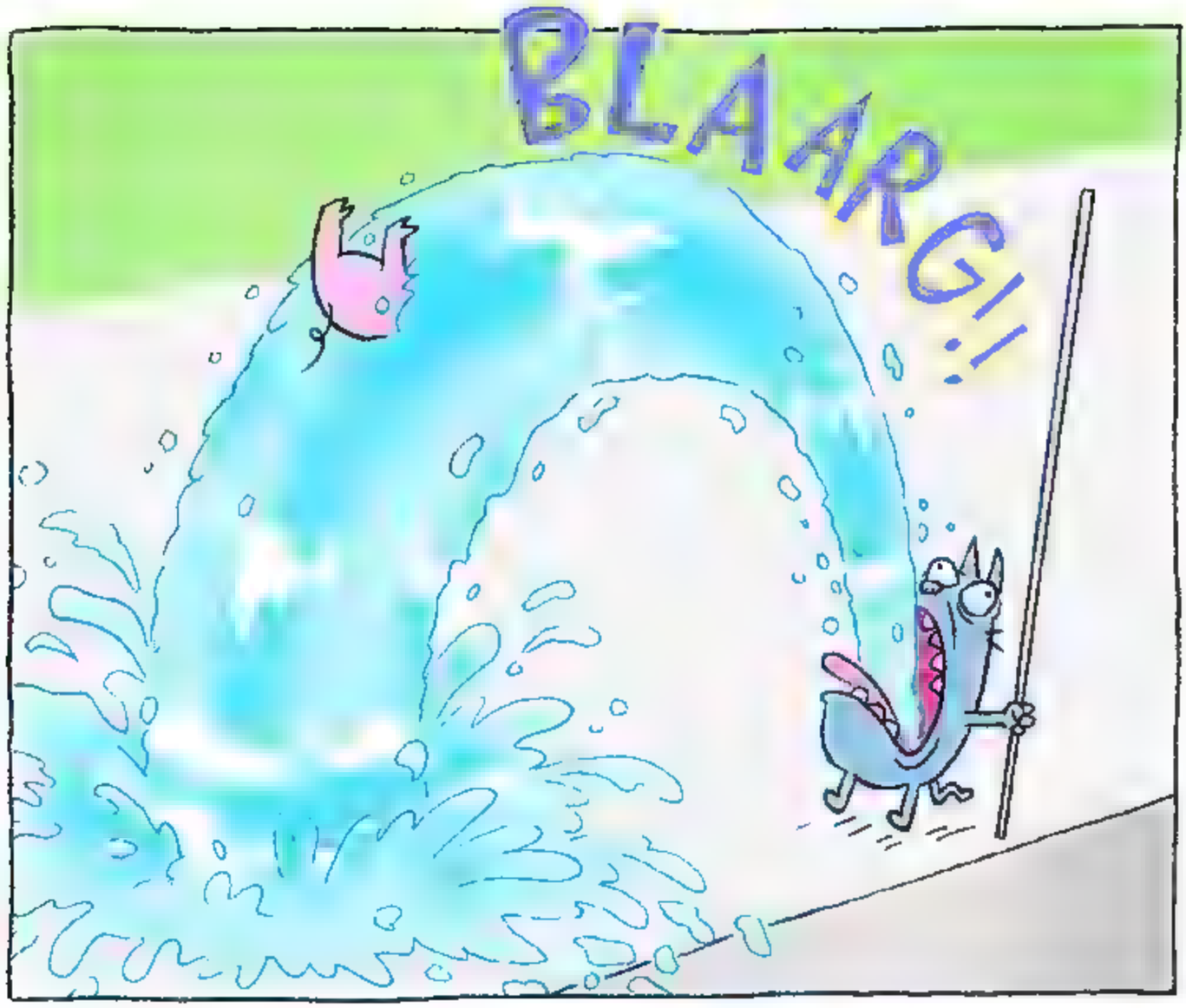
THANKS, BLURMP. THAT WAS EXACTLY WHAT I NEEDED TO HEAR.
YOU'RE WELCOME!
YUCK. HE SHOULD SWITCH BACK.



HEY, BLURMP, ARE YOU READY TO TAKE ME TO THE PARK?
JUST A MINUTE. GO WAIT BY THE POOL.
SPLASH!
HELP! I CAN'T SWIM!
!

NEITHER CAN I!
SUCK SUCK SUCK

SPLORNK!


BLARG!!

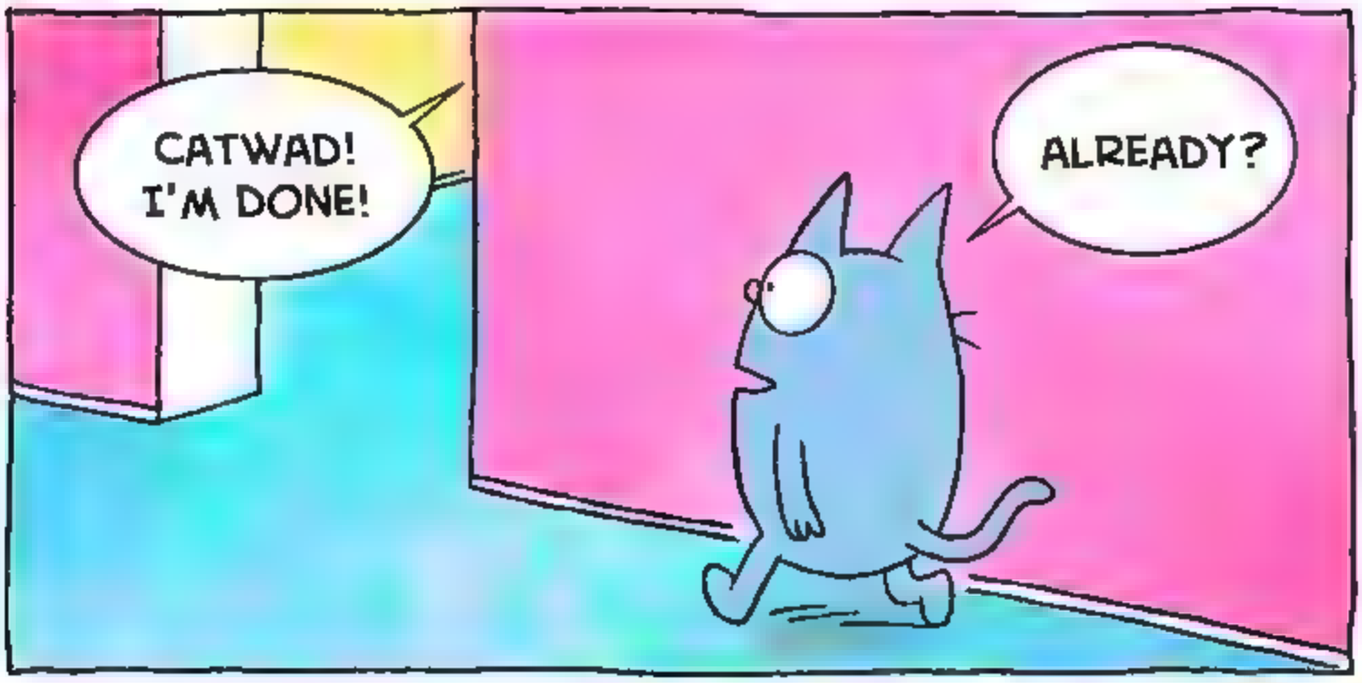
SPLAT!

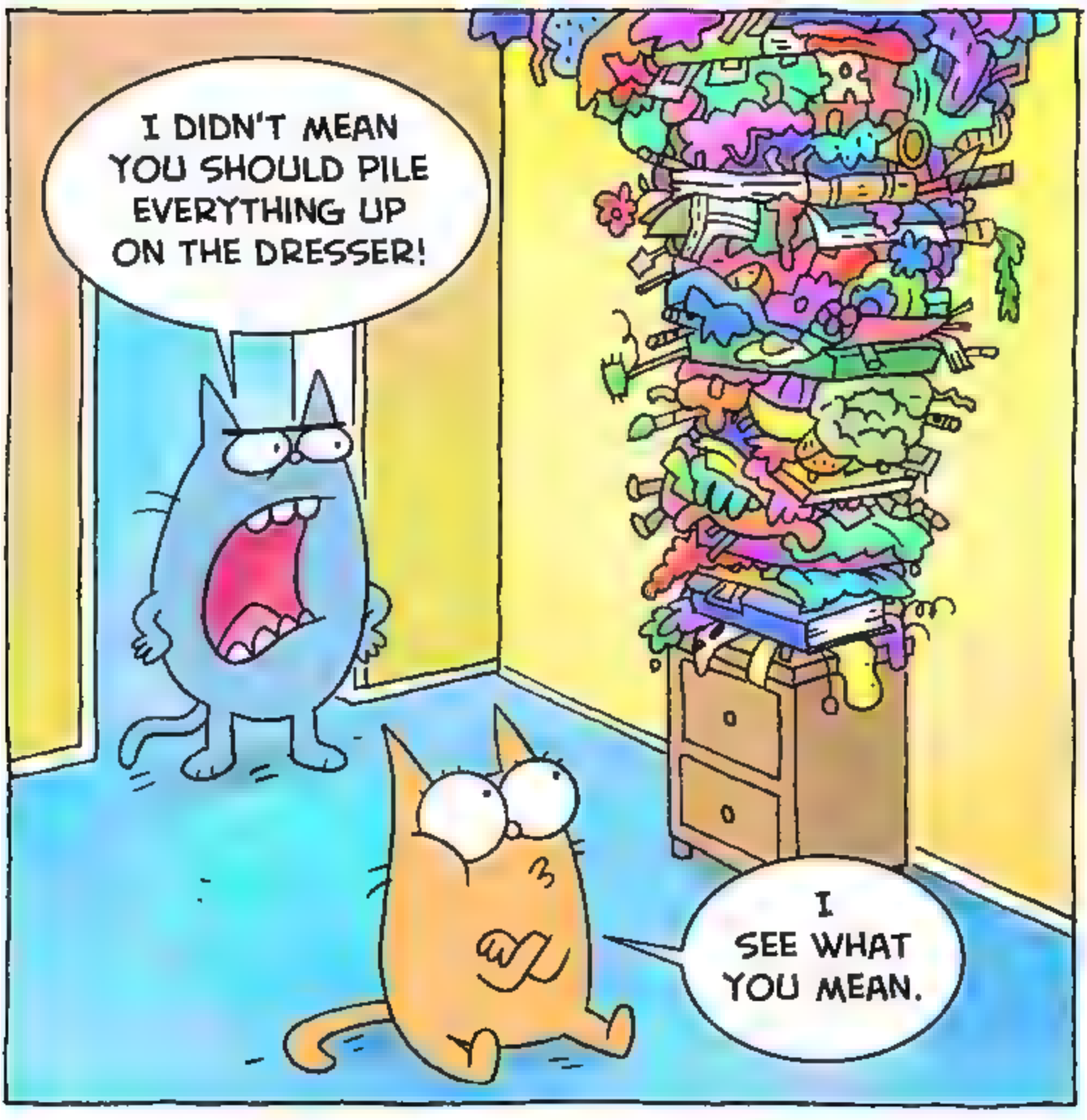
PIGMICHAEL! ARE YOU OKAY?

I THINK SO.
WHEW! ARE YOU READY TO GO TO THE PARK?
NO WAY!
I WANT TO DO THIS AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN AND...

FLOOP

WHAT A MESS!
YOU NEED TO GET YOUR STUFF OFF THE FLOOR!
OKAY.


CATWAD! I'M DONE!
ALREADY?


I DIDN'T MEAN YOU SHOULD PILE EVERYTHING UP ON THE DRESSER!
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.

CATWAD! I'M DONE AGAIN!
IS IT ALL PILED UP ON THAT DRESSER?
NO!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE DOING THINGS THE RIGHT WAY.

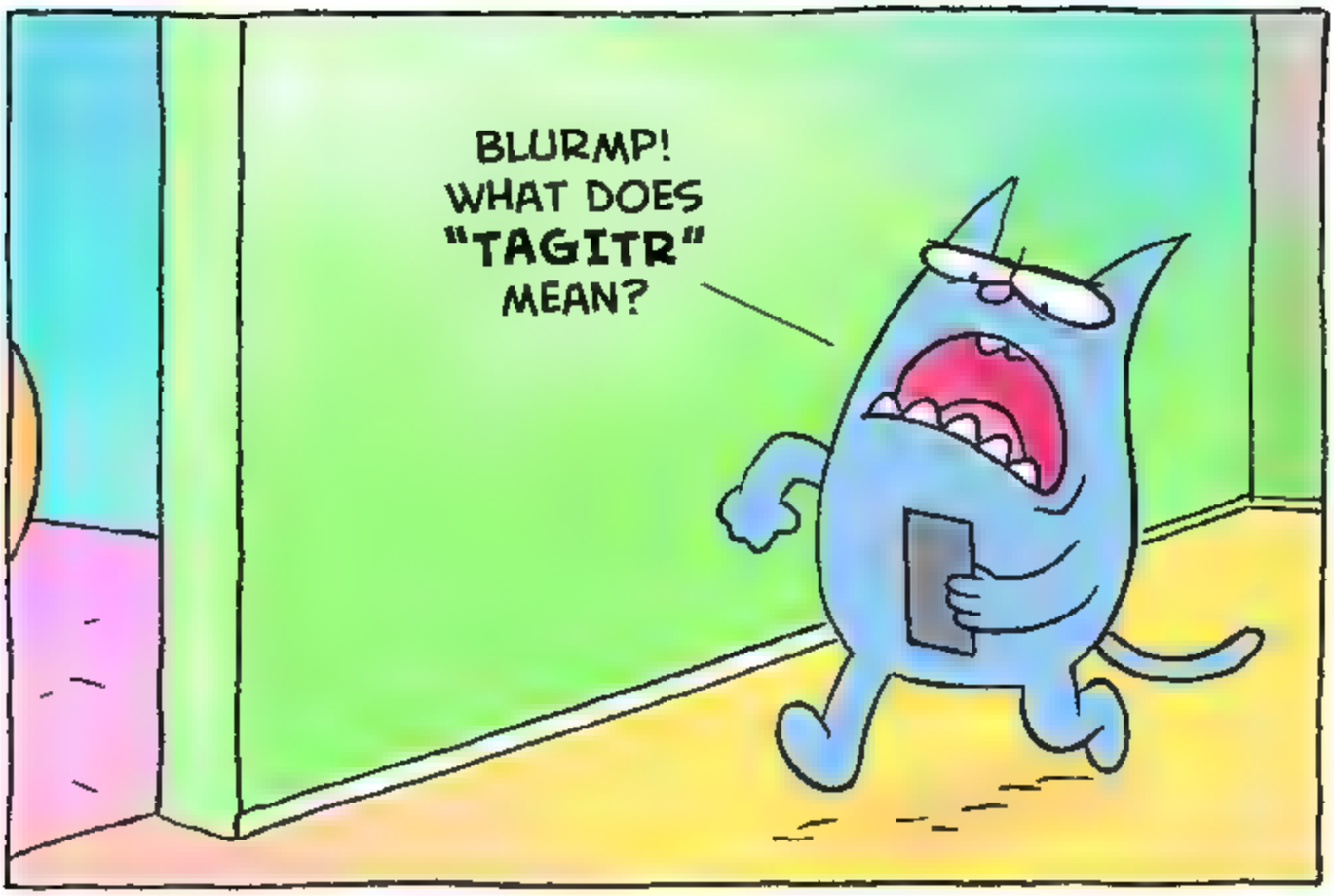
I JUST GOT MORE DRESSERS.

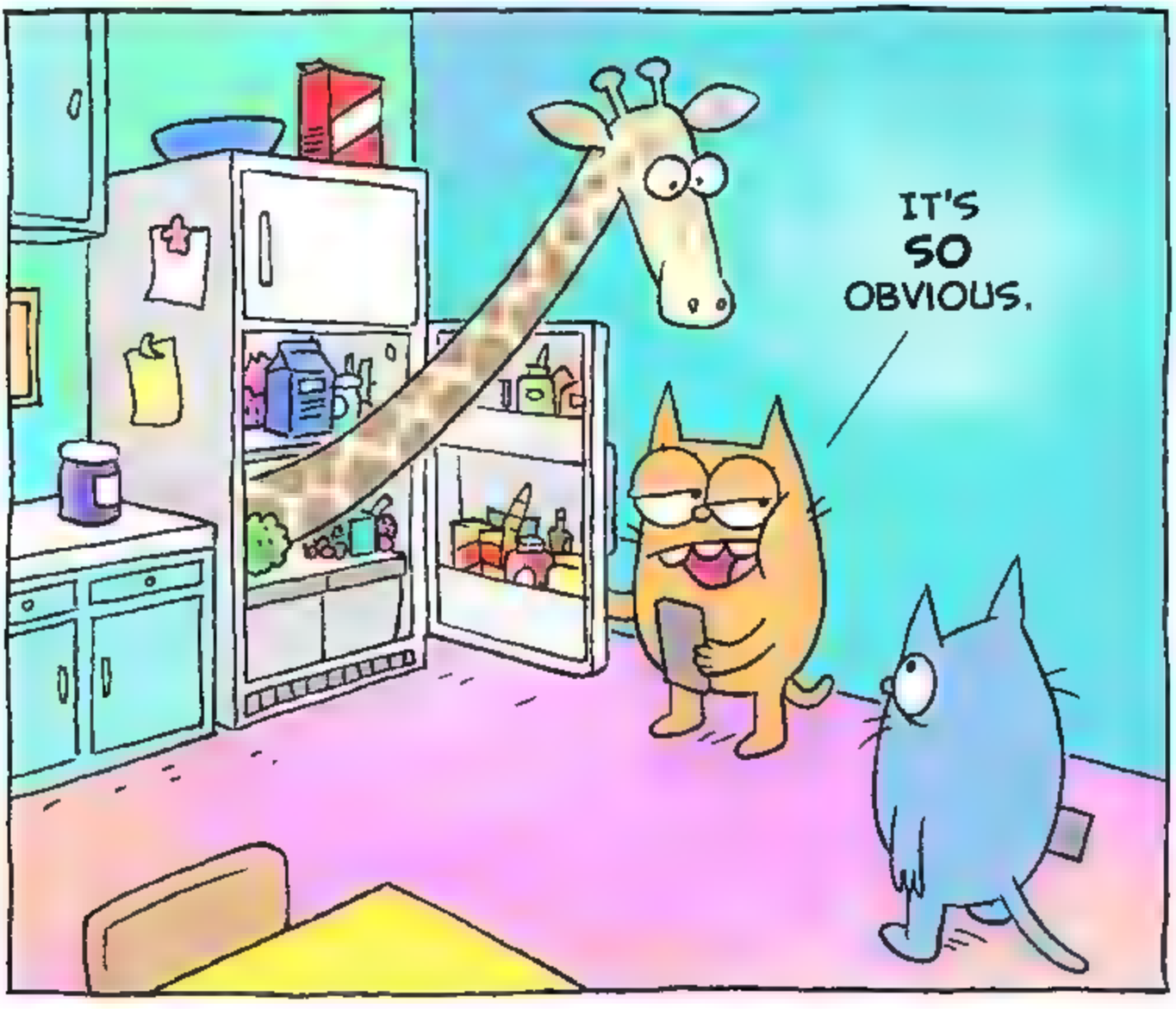
DID YOU TAKE ONE OF THOSE DRESSERS FROM MY ROOM?
CATWAD, YOU NEED TO GET YOUR STUFF OFF THE FLOOR.

texting

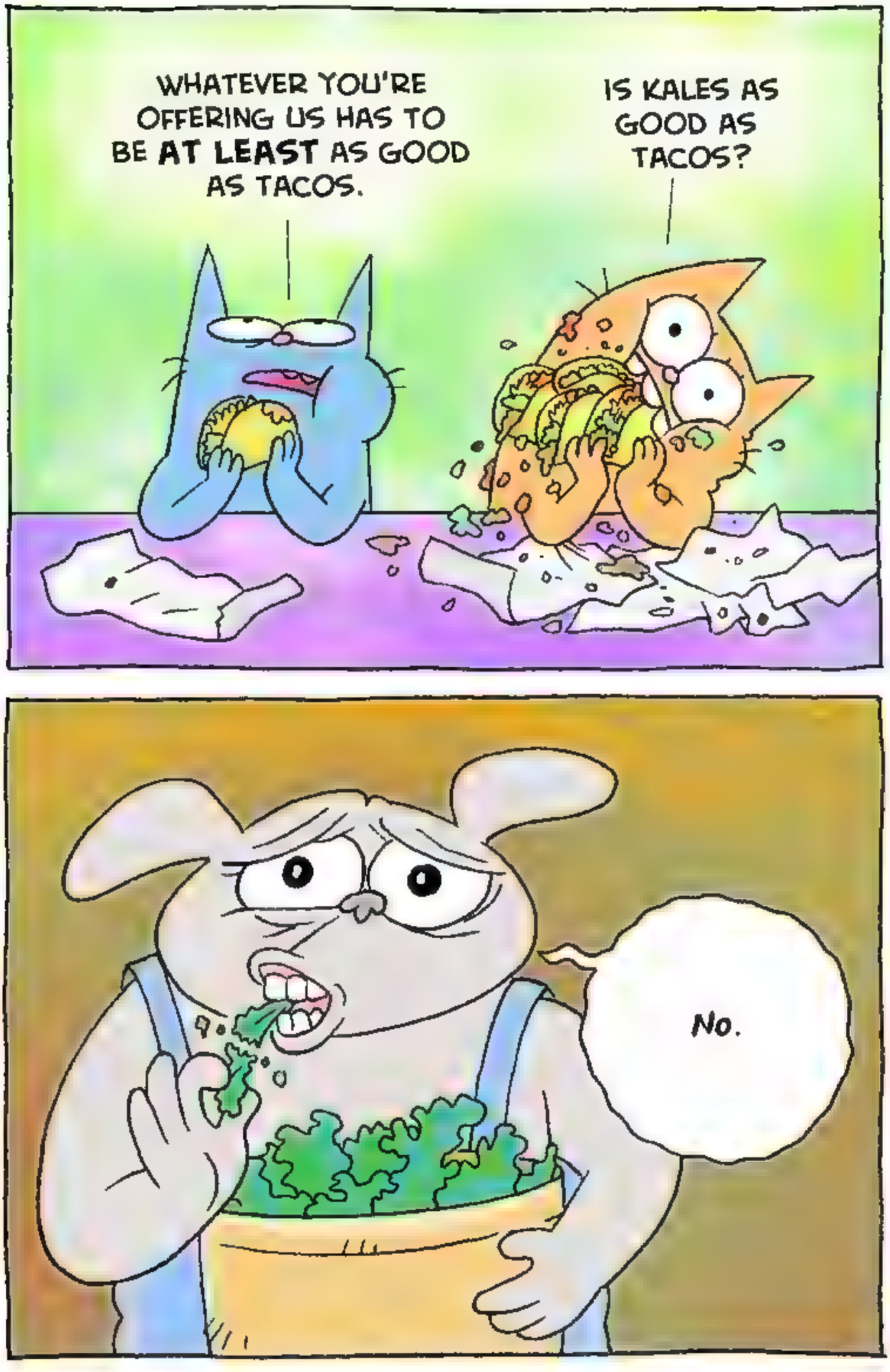
WILL YOU TEACH ME HOW TO TEXT?
YOU WON'T UNDERSTAND IT.
YES, I WILL.
OKAY. TRY THIS...
"LOL"? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
DING
IT'S SO OBVIOUS.
IT MEANS "LAUGHING OUT LOUD."
TRY ANOTHER.
"TTYL"? WHAT'S THAT?
DING
IT'S SO OBVIOUS.
IT MEANS "TALK TO YOU LATER."

OKAY. I GET IT NOW.
I DOUBT THAT.
DING
BLURMP
LOL
TTYL
TAGITR
"TAGITR"? WHAT'S THAT MEAN?


BLURMP! WHAT DOES "TAGITR" MEAN?

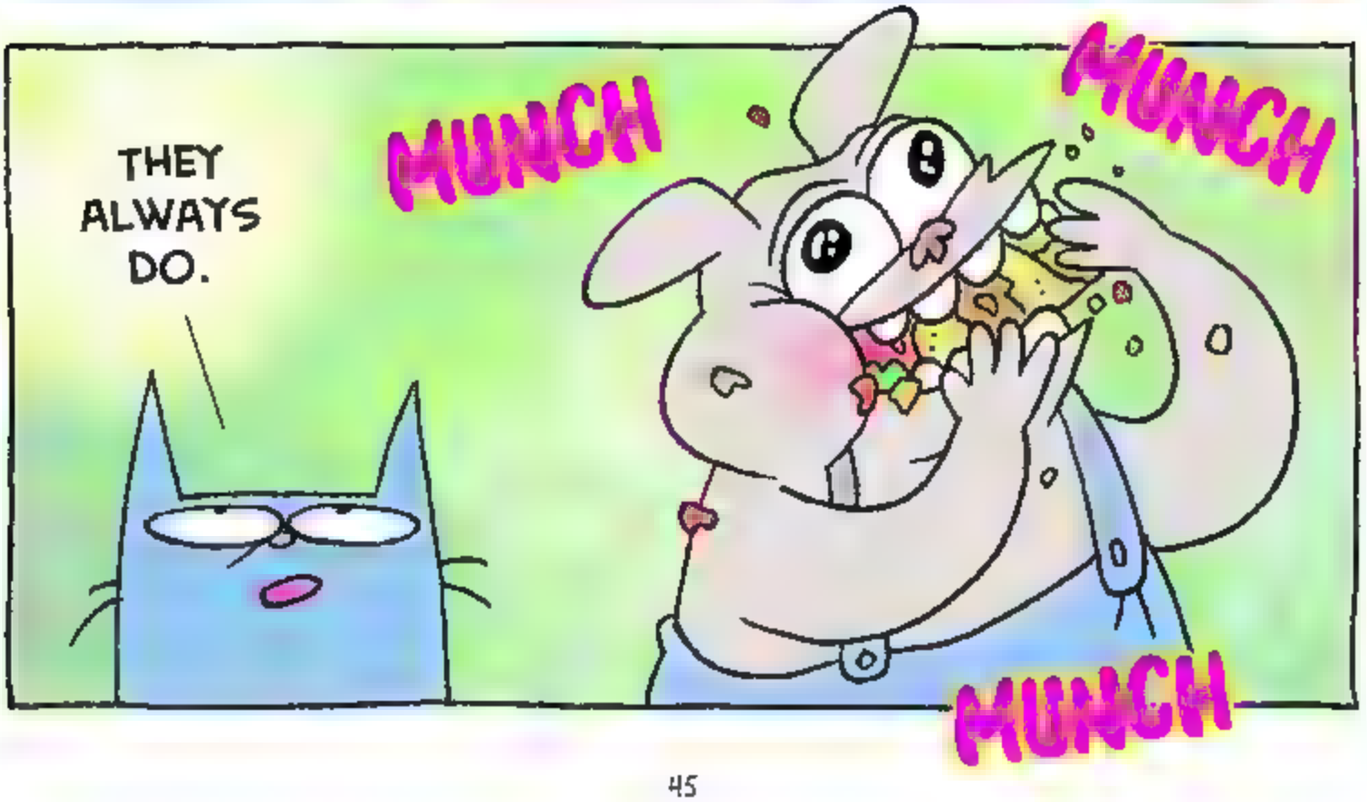

IT'S SO OBVIOUS.

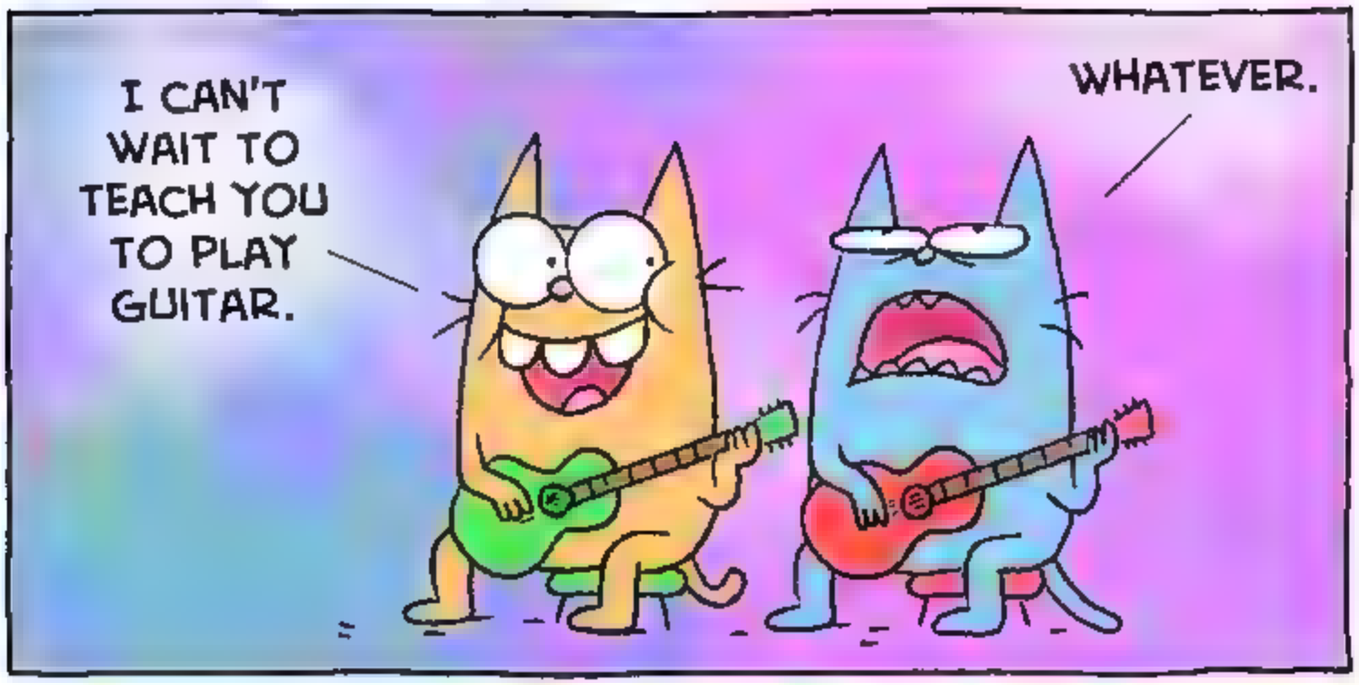
THE BRAVEST PERSON WHO EVER LIVED WAS THE GUY WHO INVENTED KALE.
HE WALKED RIGHT IN AND SUGGESTED WE EAT HIS KALE...
...EVEN THOUGH HE KNEW WE ALREADY HAD TACOS.
WHO WANTS KALE?
DUDE. WE HAVE TACOS UP IN HERE.

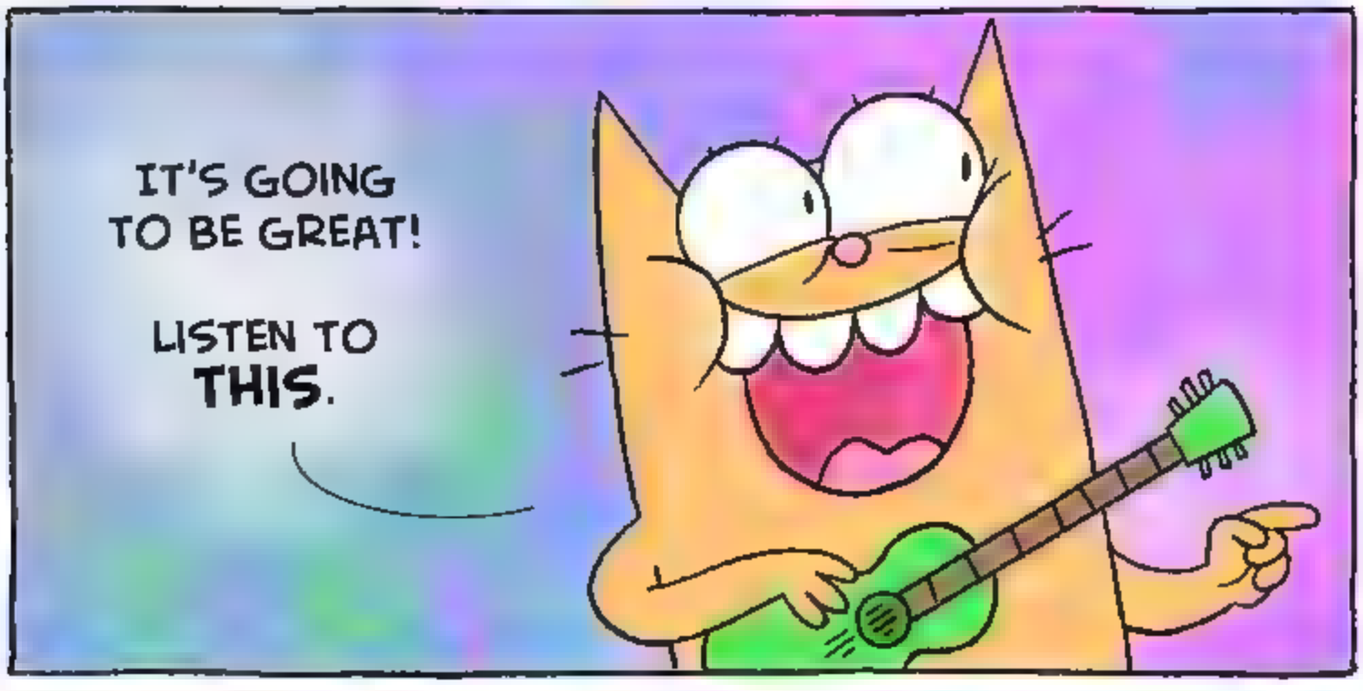

WHATEVER YOU'RE OFFERING US HAS TO BE AT LEAST AS GOOD AS TACOS.
IS KALES AS GOOD AS TACOS?
No.

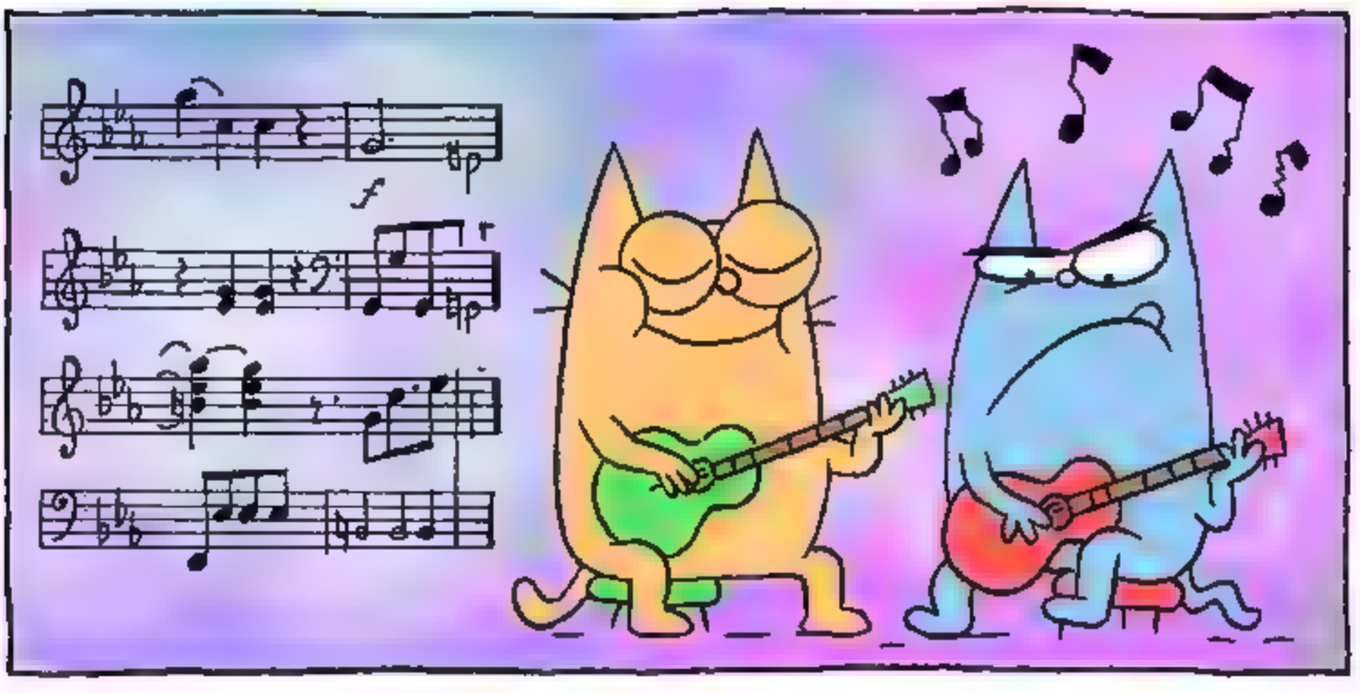
ARE YOU CRYING NOW?
NO
SHUT UP
NO

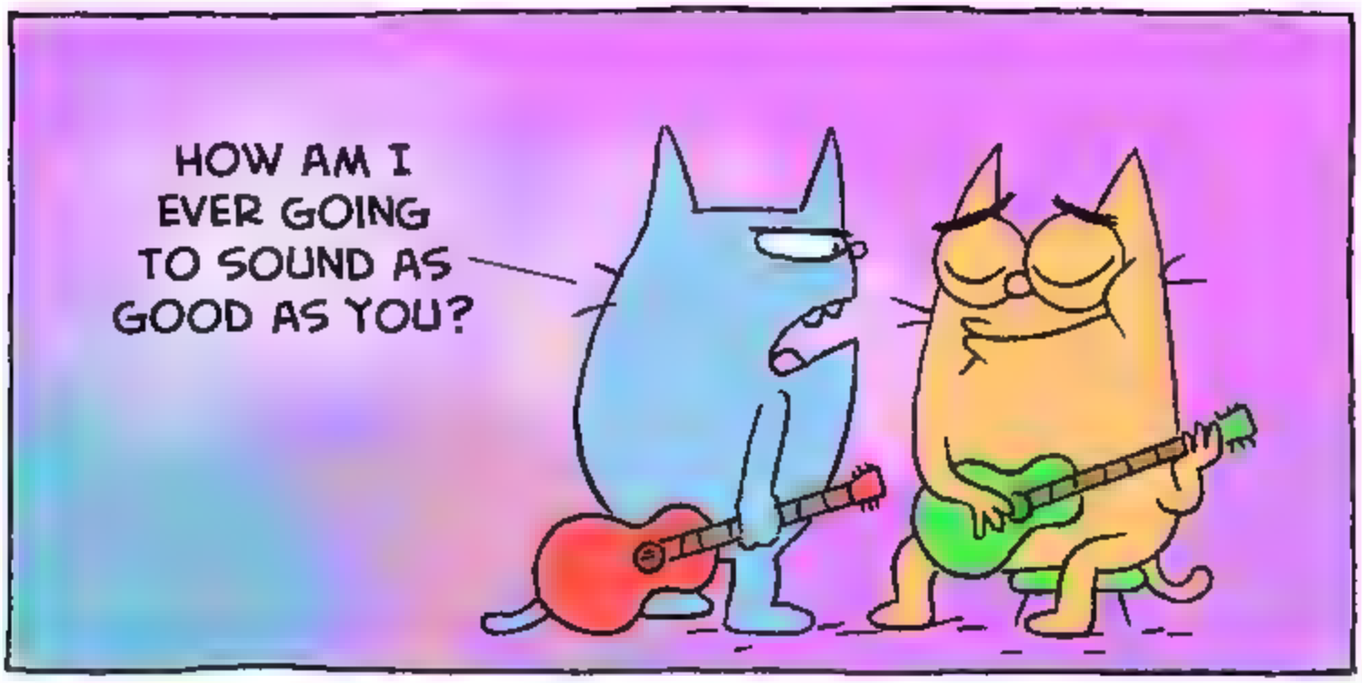
WOULD A TACO HELP?
YES.

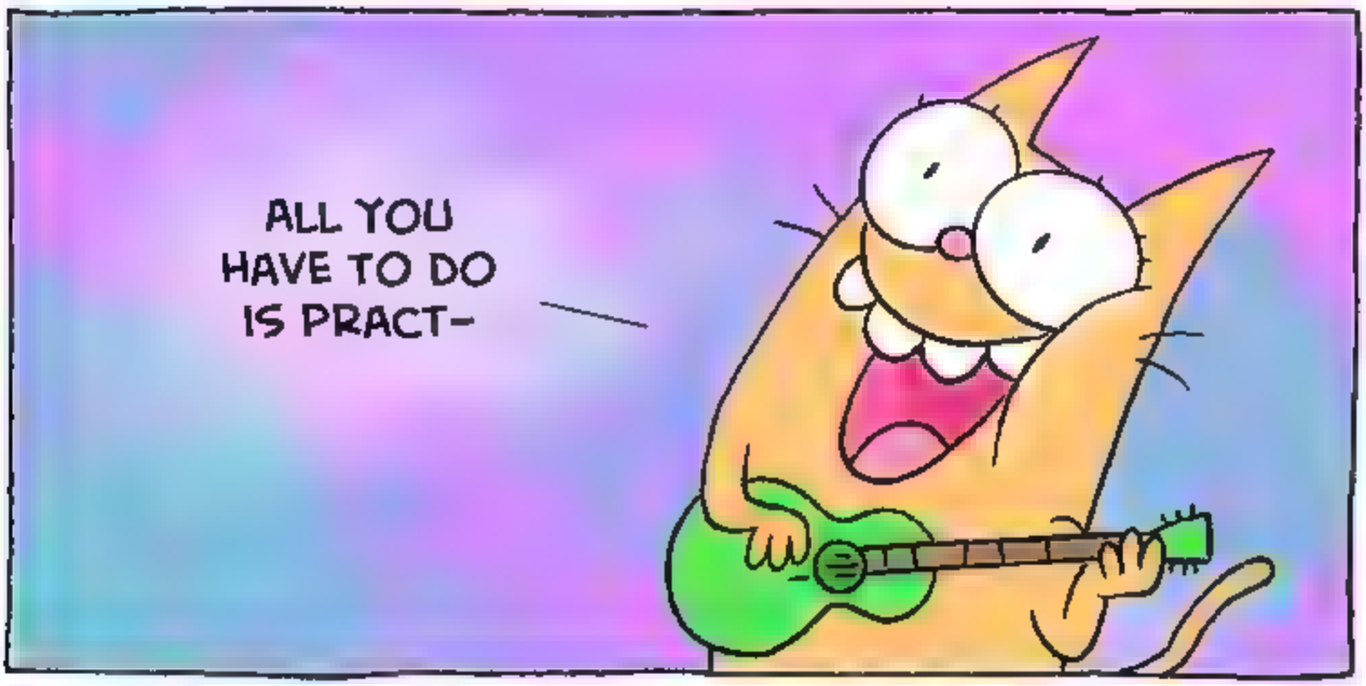

THEY ALWAYS DO.
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH

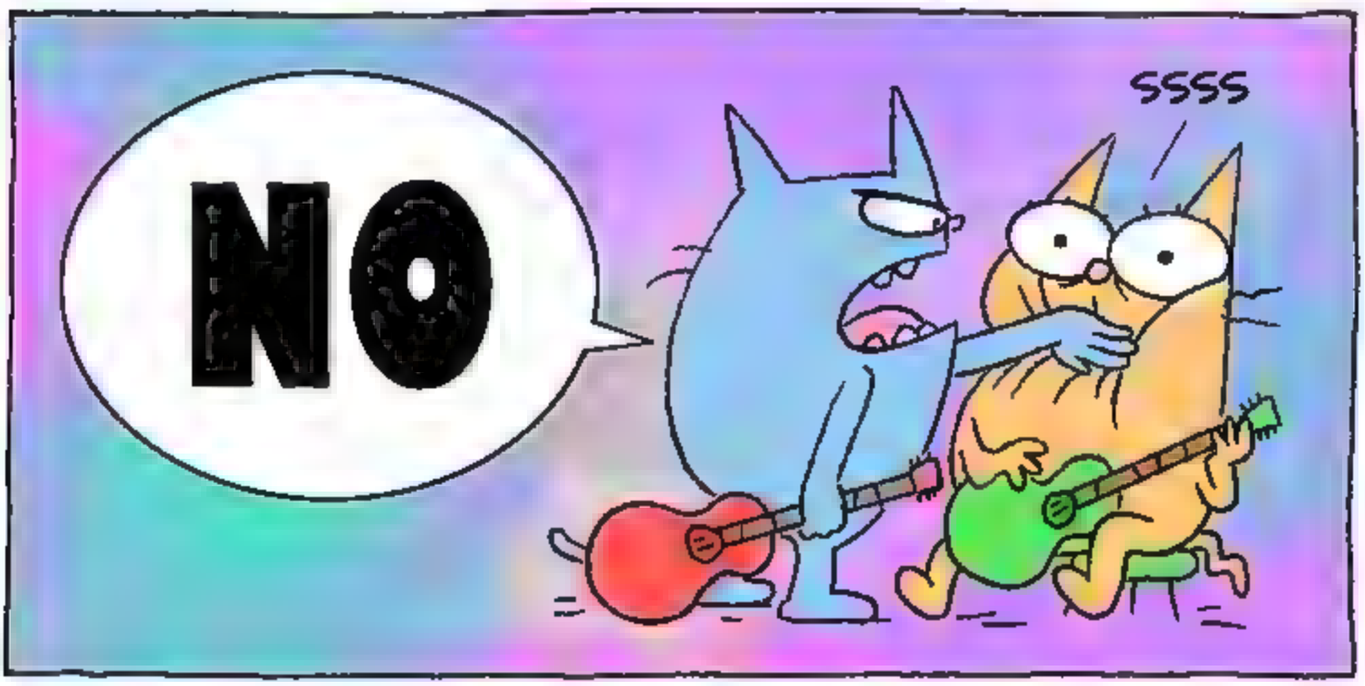

I CAN'T WAIT TO TEACH YOU TO PLAY GUITAR.
WHATEVER.


IT'S GOING TO BE GREAT!
LISTEN TO THIS.

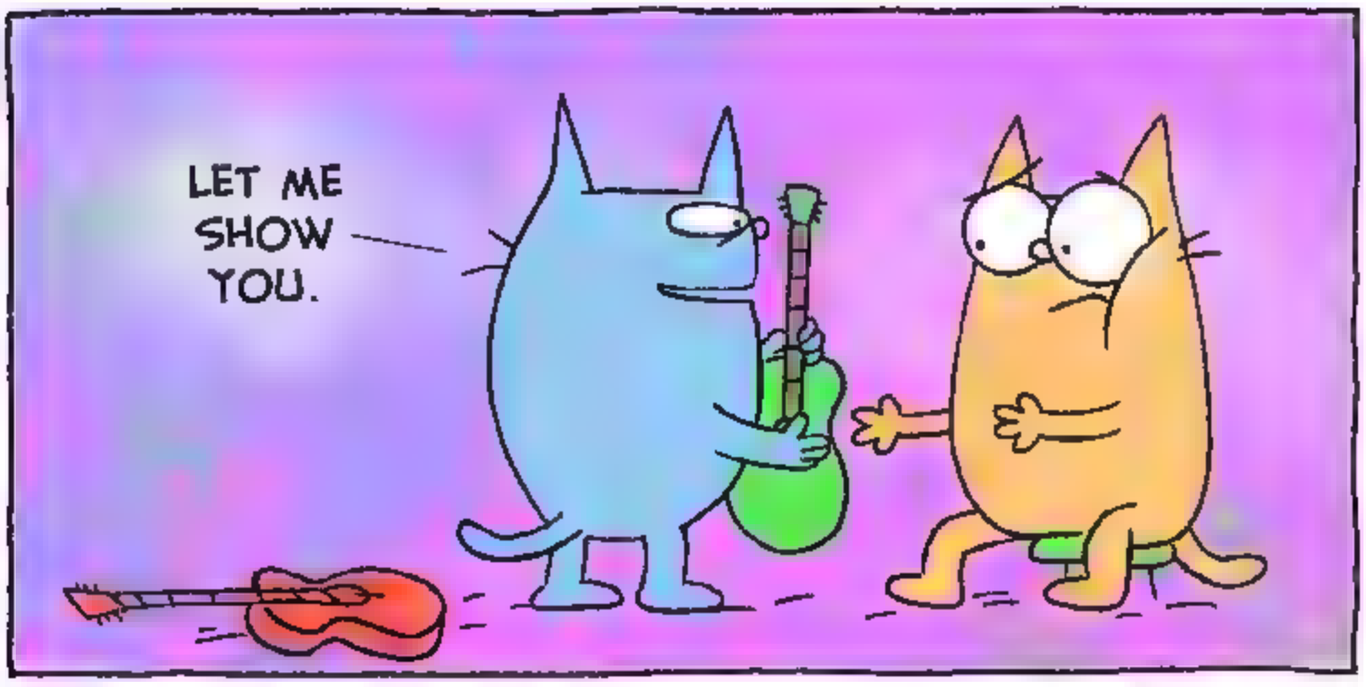



HOW AM I EVER GOING TO SOUND AS GOOD AS YOU?


ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PRACT-


NO
SSSS

I DON'T WANT TO PRACTICE.
AT ALL.
THAT'S THE ONLY WAY FOR YOU TO SOUND AS GOOD AS ME.
HMMM... MAYBE...
...MAYBE THERE'S AN EASIER WAY.

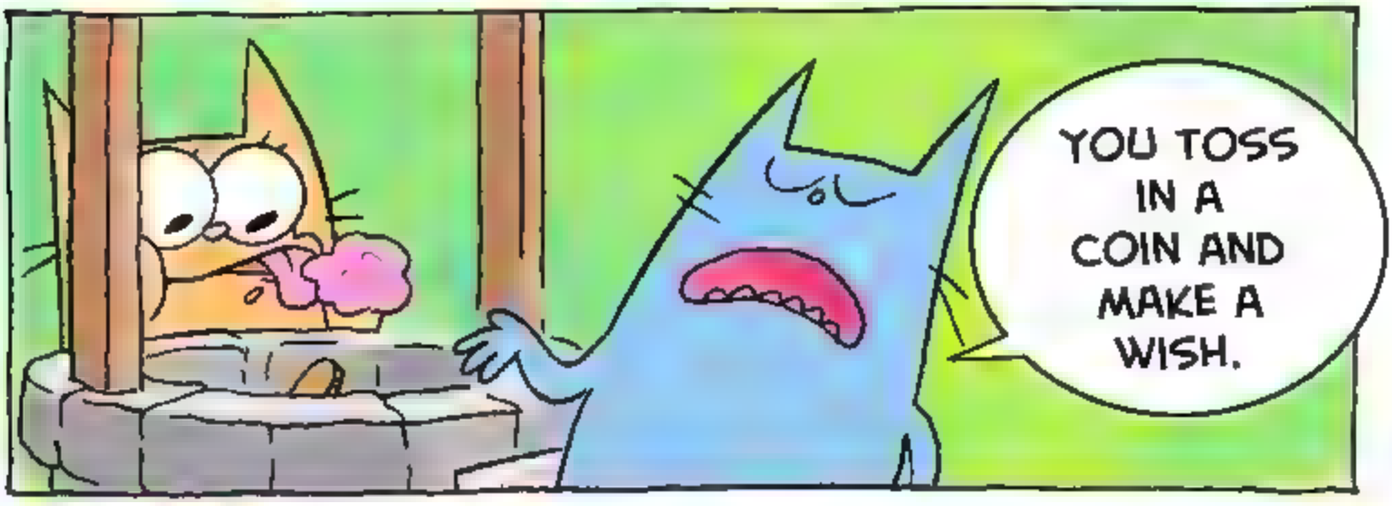

LET ME SHOW YOU.

MY GUITAR!
SMASH!

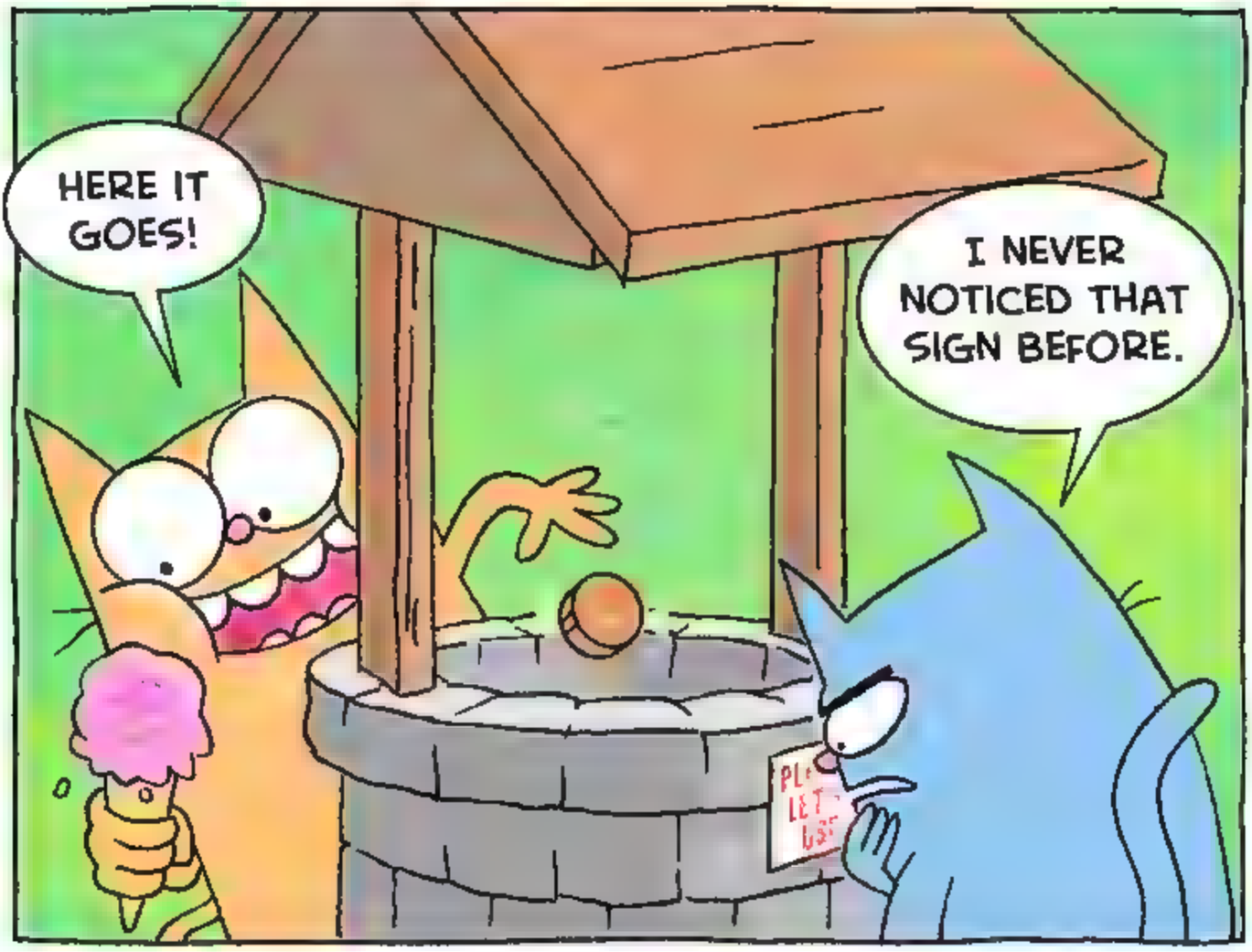
OH MY GOSH. THIS SOUNDS TERRIBLE.
YEAH.
AND NOW I SOUND AS GOOD AS YOU.

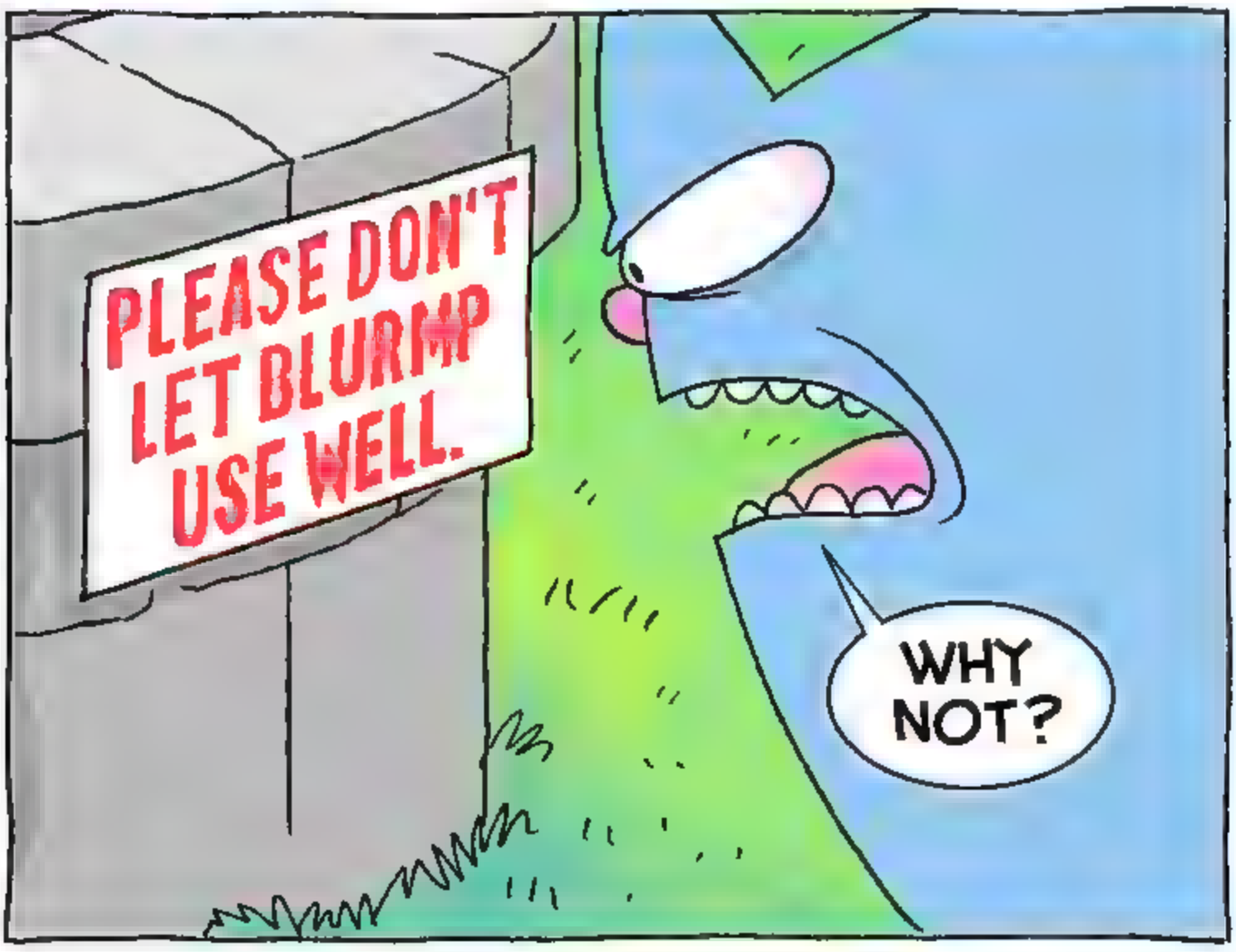
WISH

OOOO! WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S A WISHING WELL.


YOU TOSS IN A COIN AND MAKE A WISH.

I HAVE A PENNY!


HERE IT GOES!
I NEVER NOTICED THAT SIGN BEFORE.


PLEASE DON'T LET BLURMP USE WELL.
WHY NOT?

POP!
YAY! IT WORKED!
OH.

FLOSS

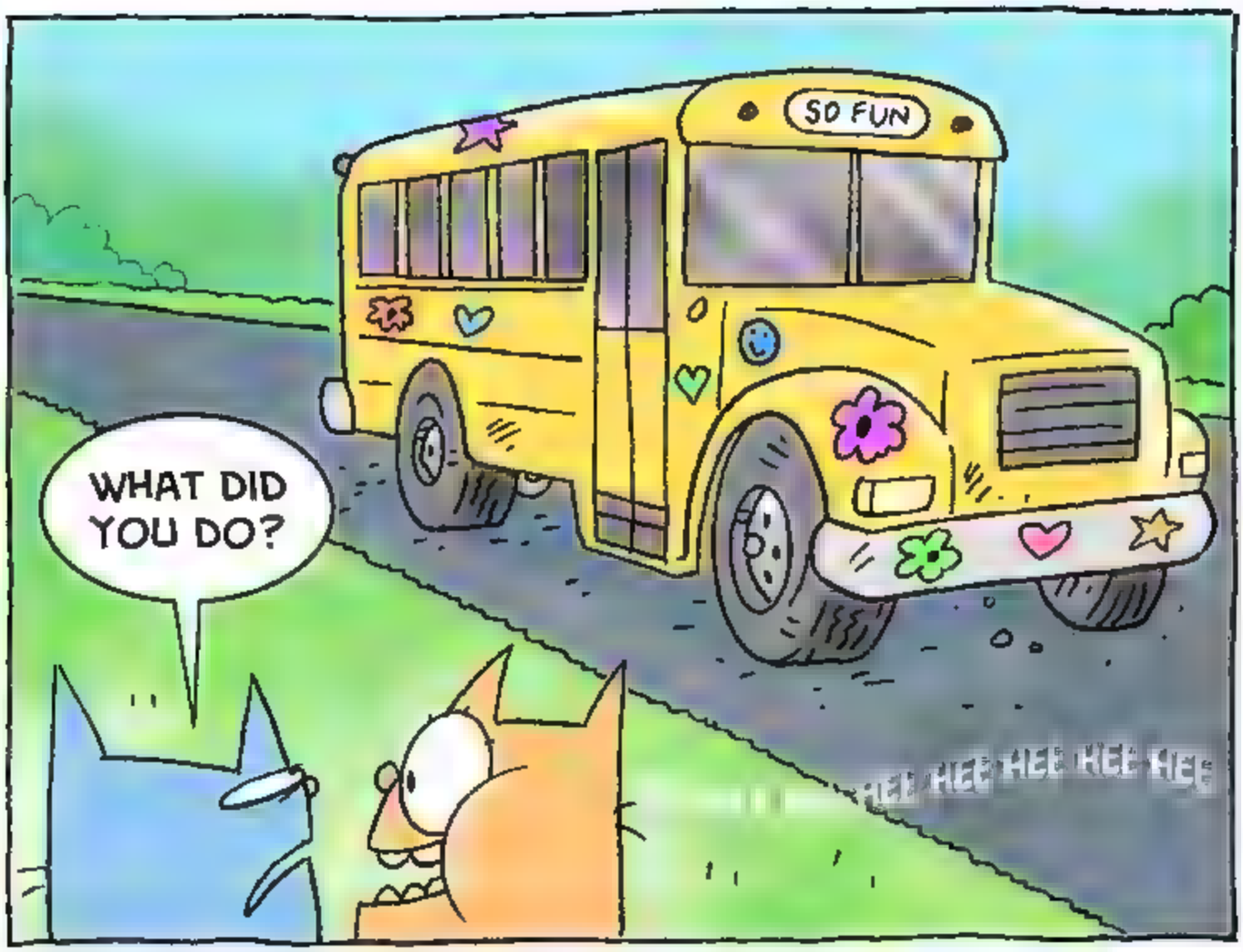
DO YOU MIND IF I FLOSS?
WHY WOULD I MIND?
WELL, IT'S KIND OF GROSS.
WHY WOULD ANYBODY THINK THAT'S GROSS?

IT'S STUCK.
LET ME HELP.

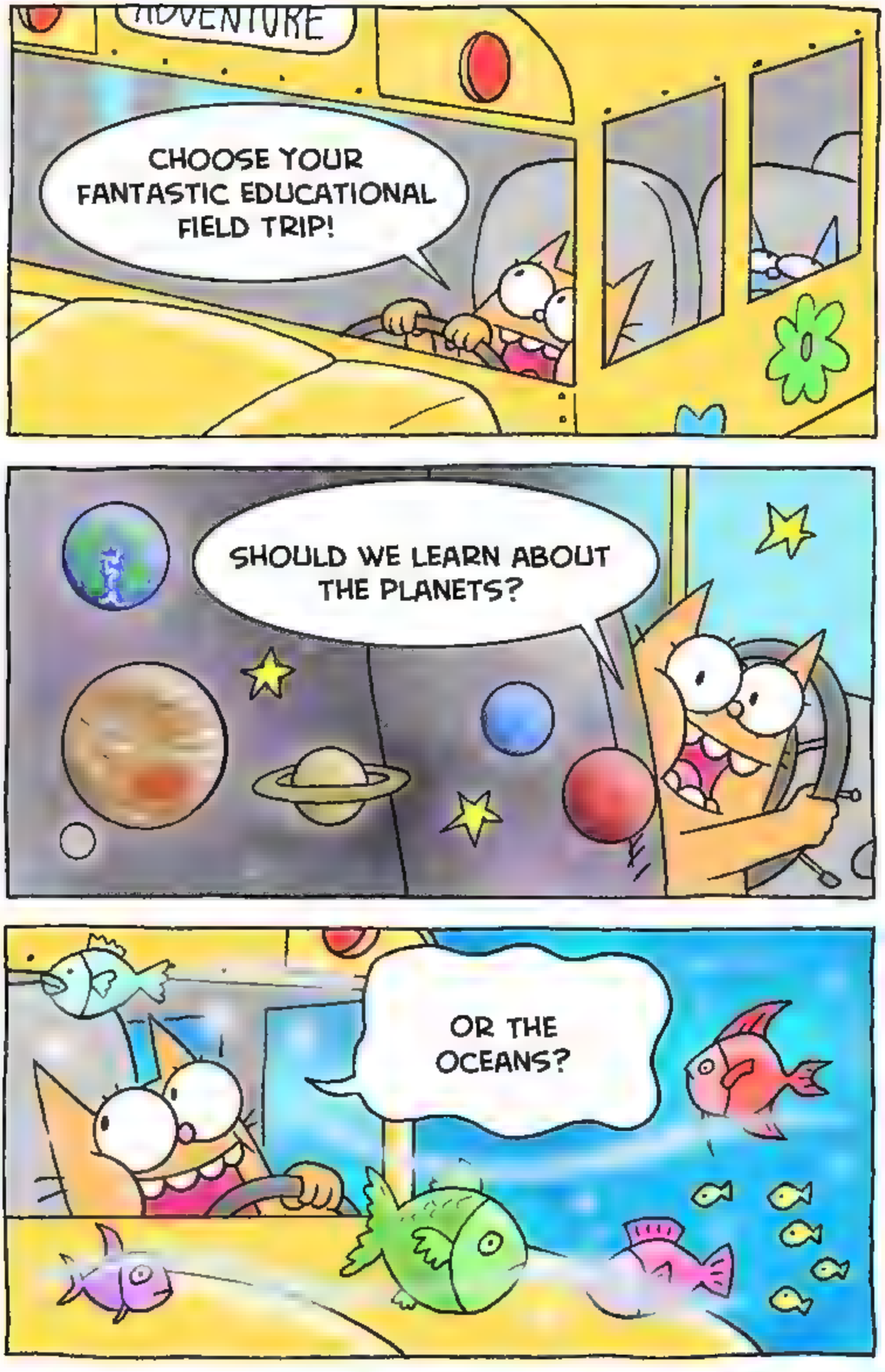
THAT'S OKAY. I'M GOOD.
JUST TRUST ME.

NNNNGGGG
UGH. YOU'RE RIGHT. IT IS KIND OF GROSS.

THE
BUS

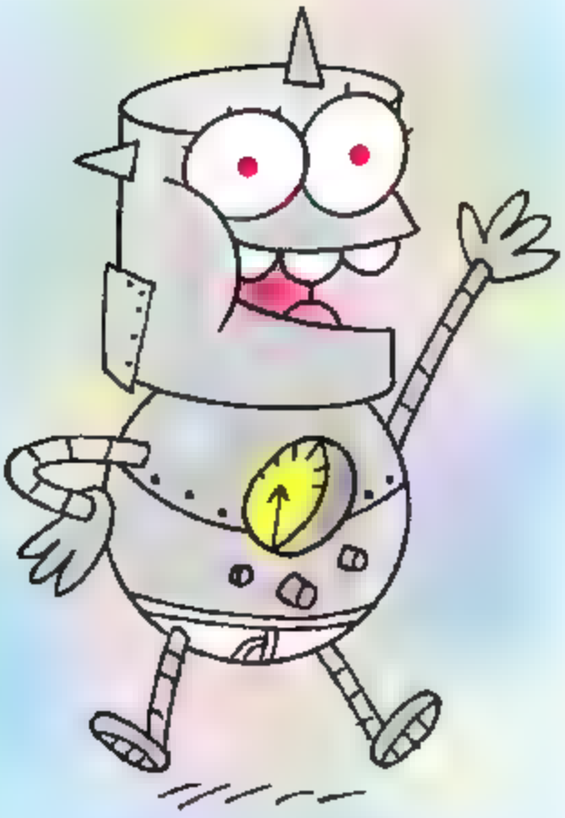

SO FUN
WHAT DID YOU DO?
HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE

I BOUGHT A BUS SO WE COULD HAVE MAGICAL LEARNING ADVENTURES!

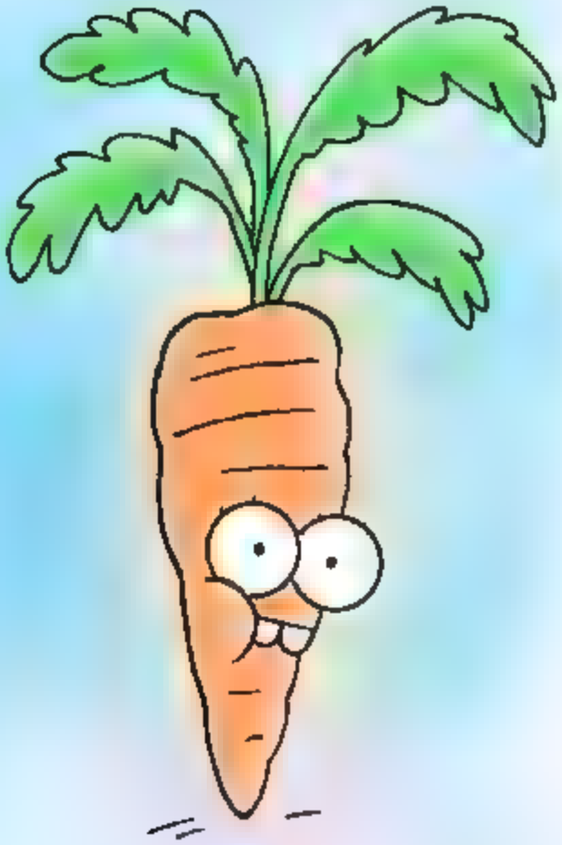

ADVENTURE
CHOOSE YOUR FANTASTIC EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIP!
SHOULD WE LEARN ABOUT THE PLANETS?
OR THE OCEANS?

DINOSAURS?

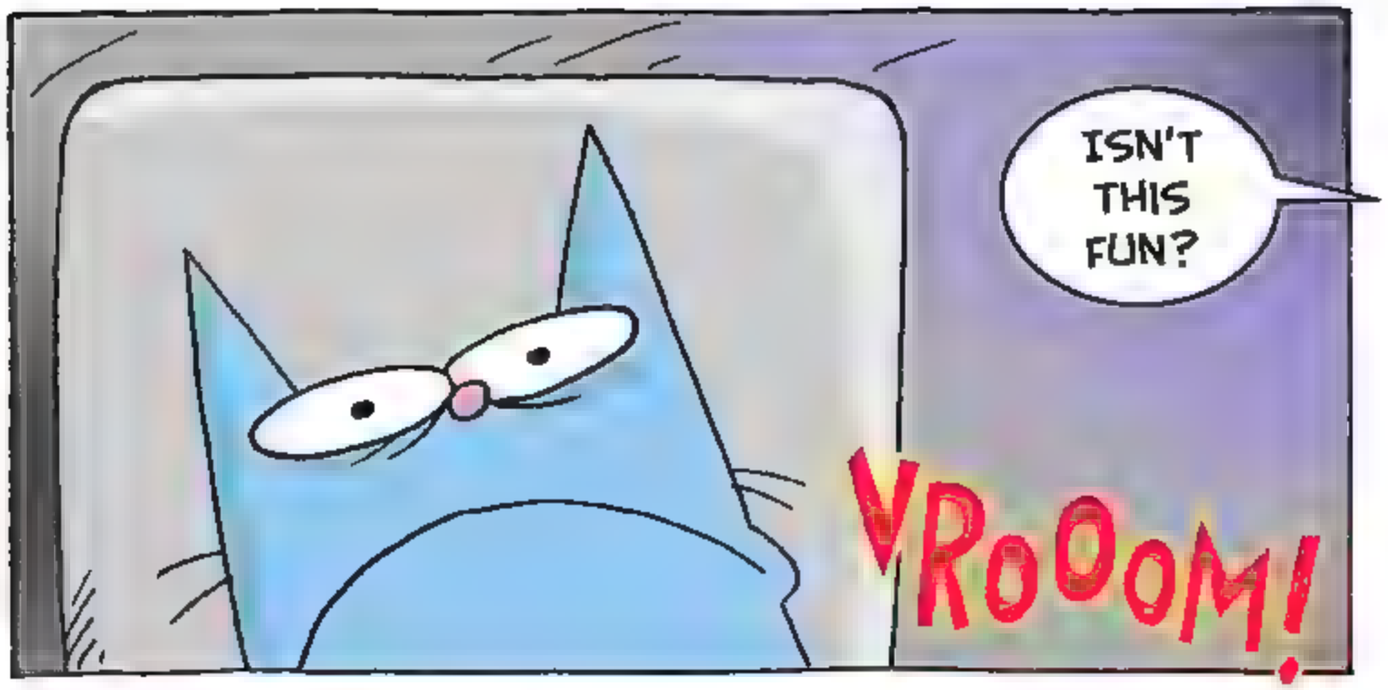
ROBOTS?

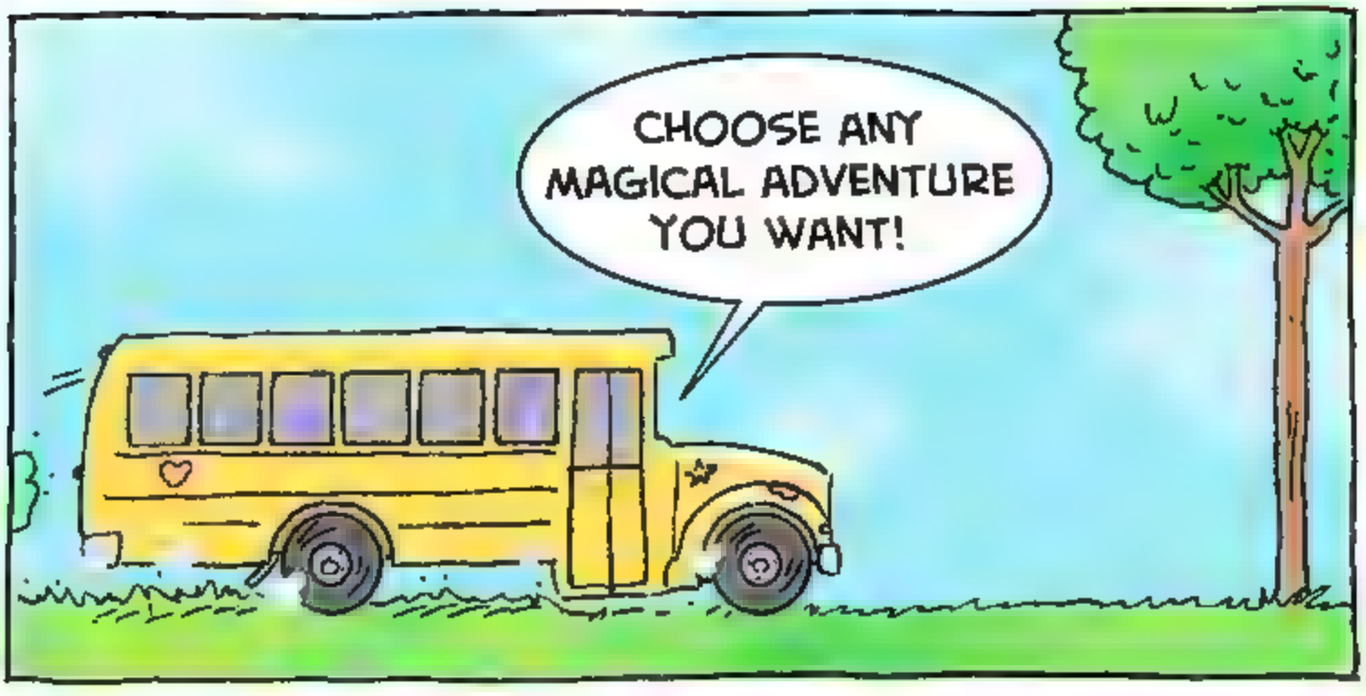


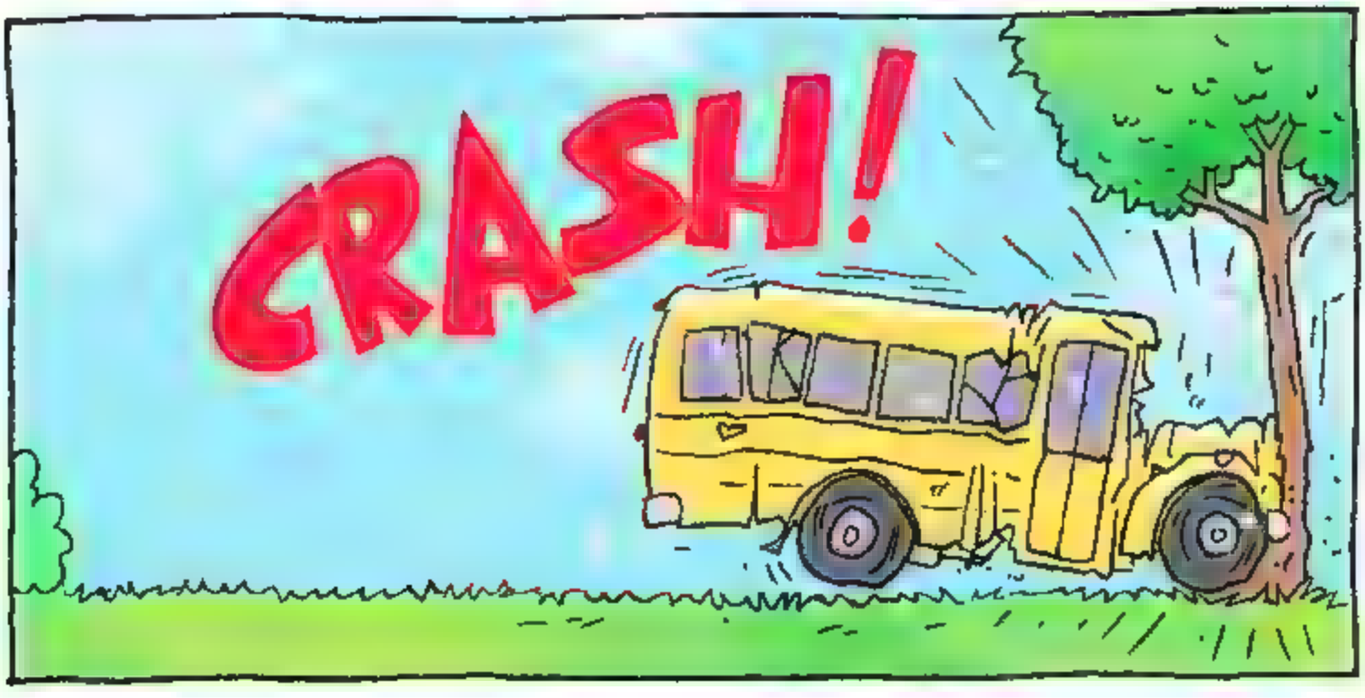
MATH?



A CARROT?


ISN'T THIS FUN?
VROOOM!

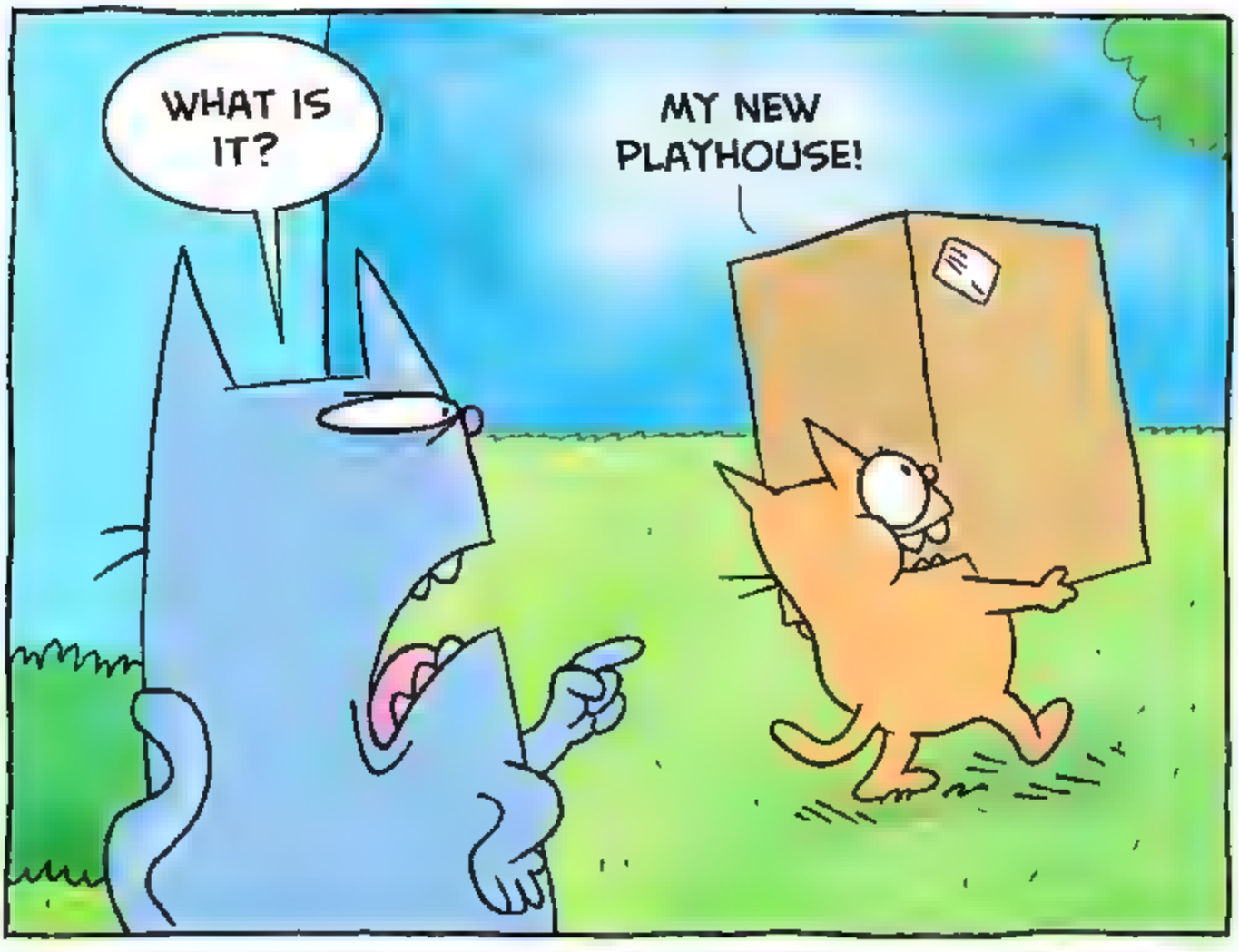

CHOOSE ANY MAGICAL ADVENTURE YOU WANT!


CRASH!

I CHOOSE A MAGICAL ADVENTURE WHERE A CAT DOESN'T PRETEND HE CAN DRIVE A BUS.

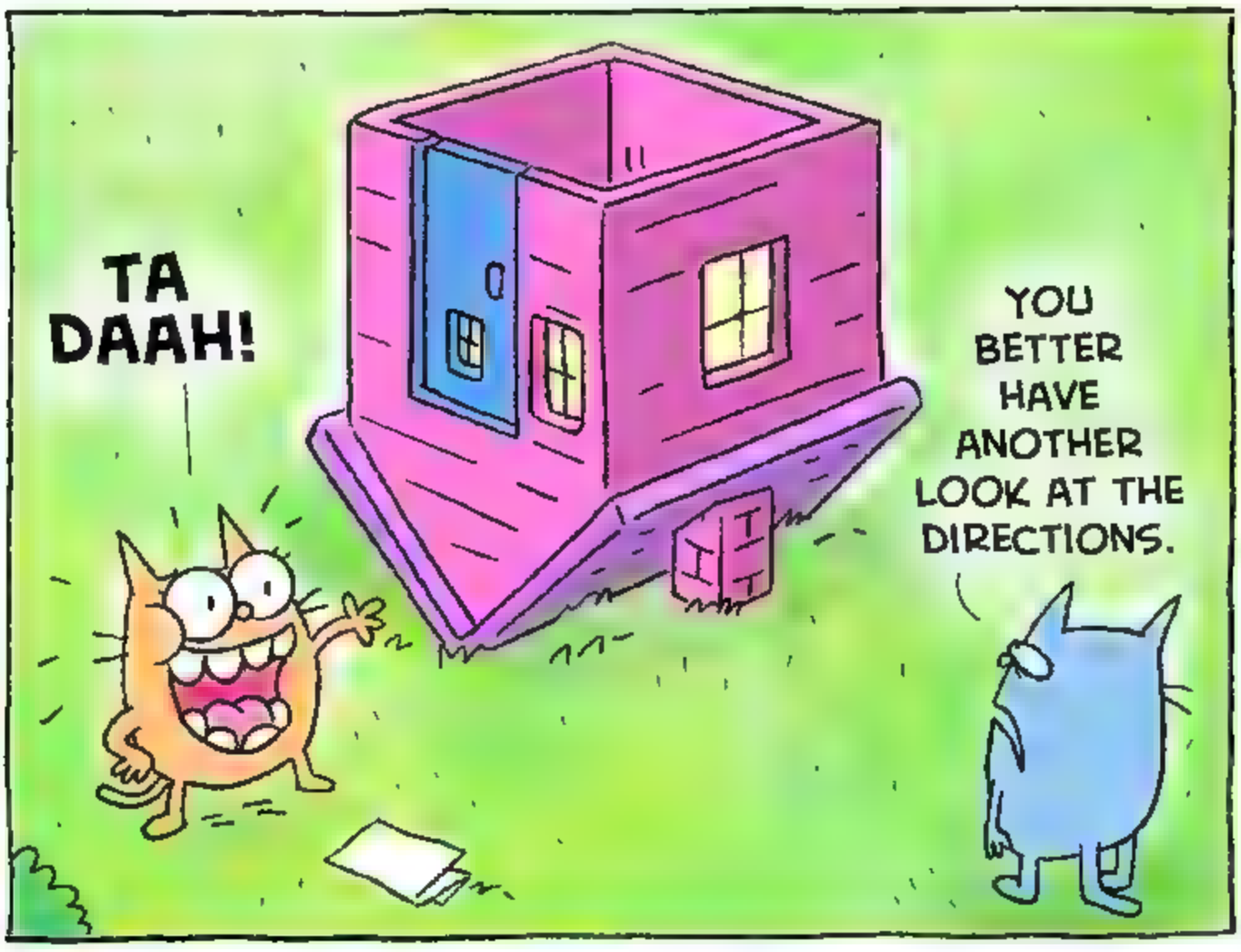
PLAYHOUSE

IT CAME!

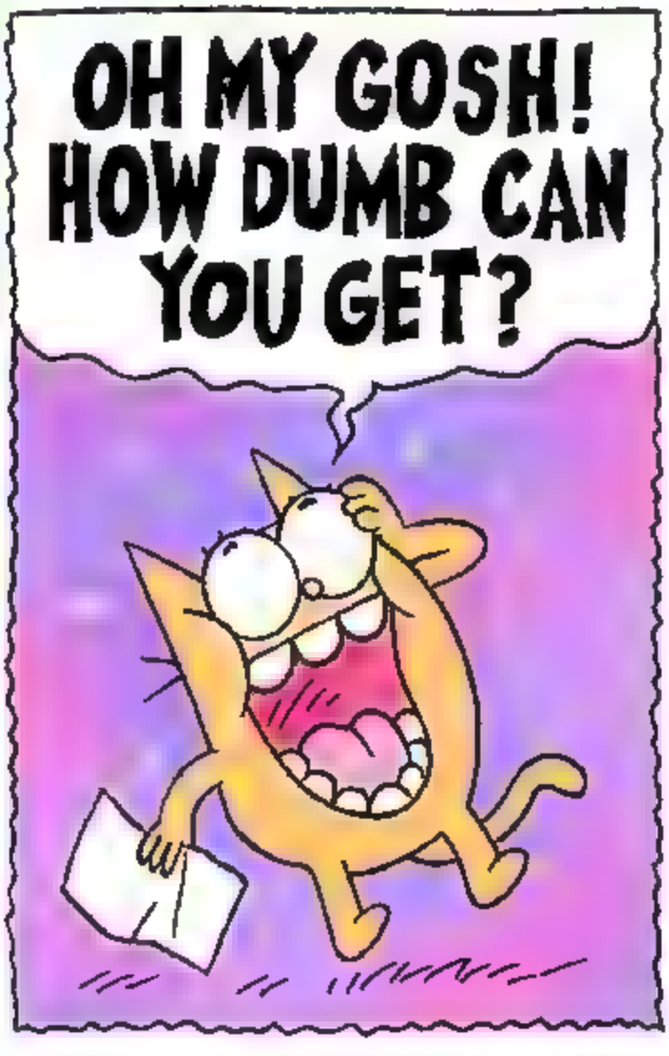

WHAT IS IT?
MY NEW PLAYHOUSE!

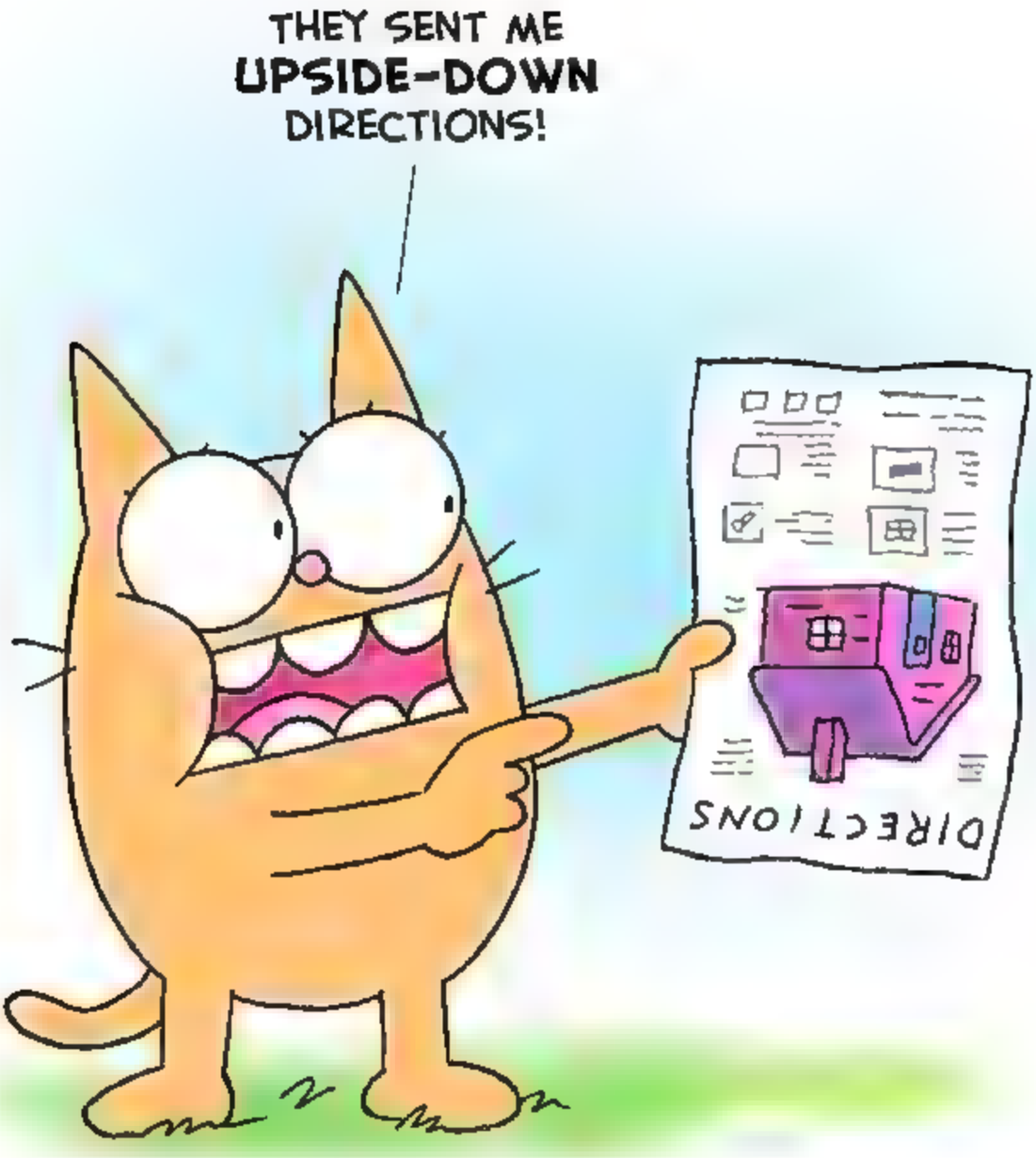
DO YOU NEED HELP?
NO, THANKS!
I GOT MY HELMET.
I GOT MY TOOLBOX.
I CAN DO IT ALL BY MYSELF.

LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE DIRECTIONS...
GRUNT
CATWAD! I'M ALL DONE! COME AND SEE!


TA DAAH!
YOU BETTER HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE DIRECTIONS.

HMMMMM

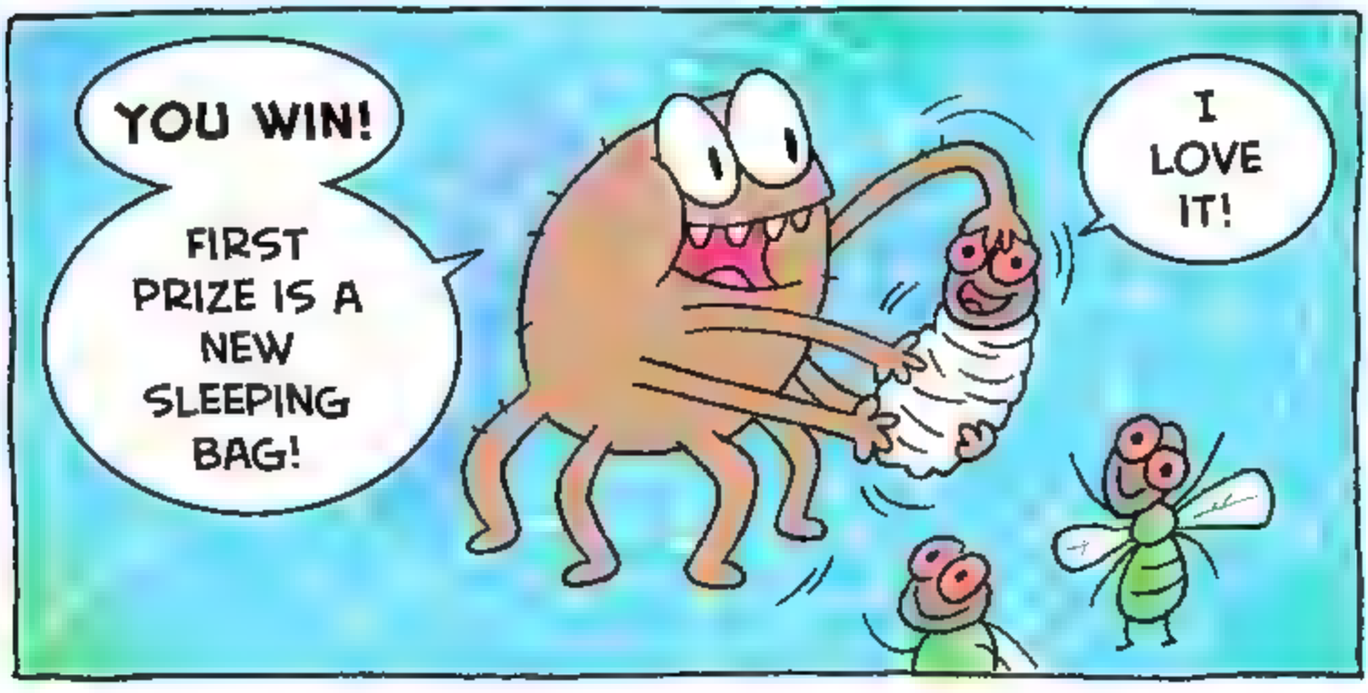

OH MY GOSH! HOW DUMB CAN YOU GET?

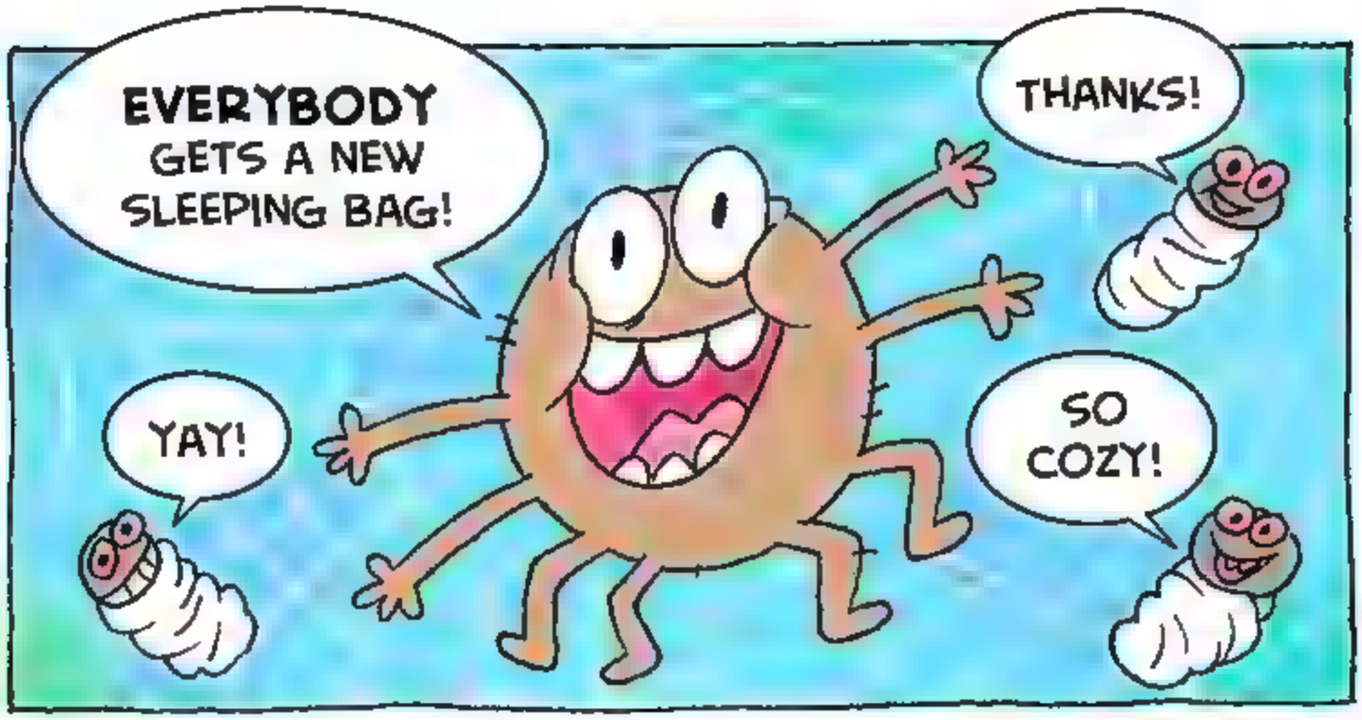

THEY SENT ME
UPSIDE-DOWN
DIRECTIONS!
DIRECTIONS

Hiko

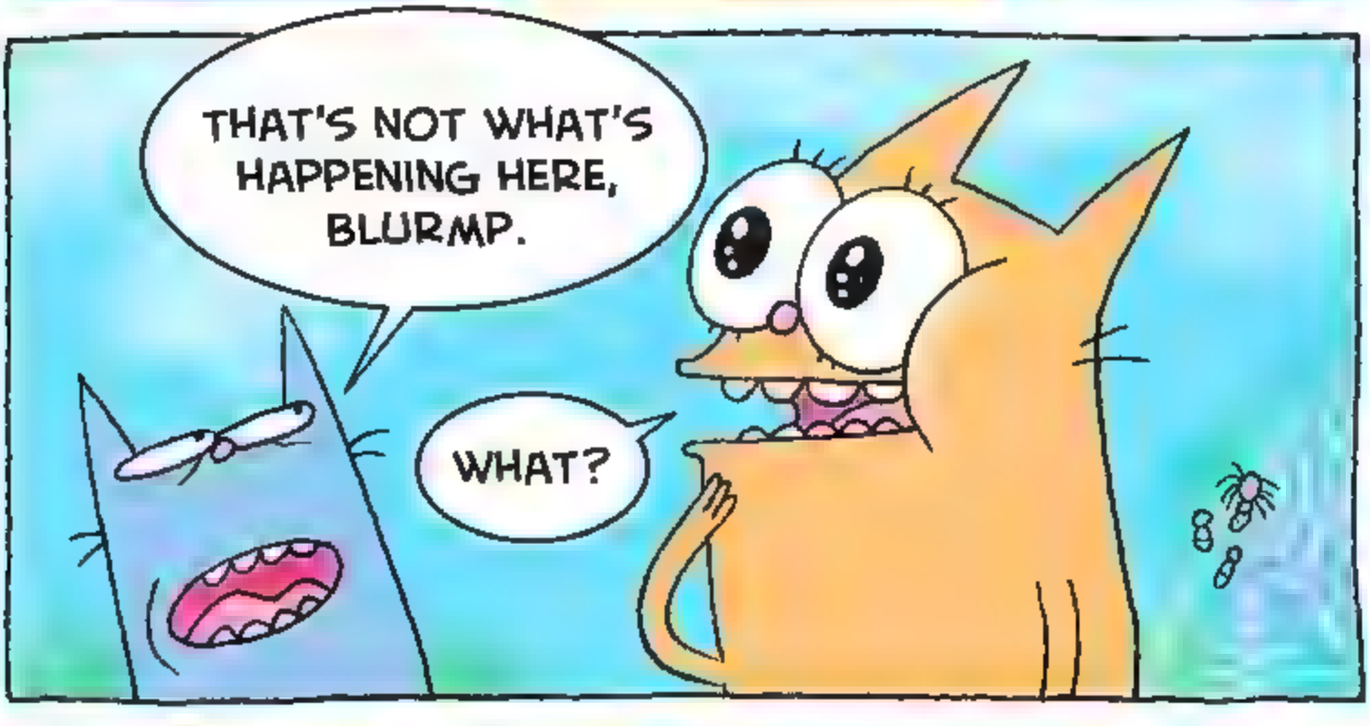
HI!
WELCOME TO MY WEB!

LET'S HAVE A WIGGLY DANCE CONTEST!
YEAH!


YOU WIN!
FIRST PRIZE IS A NEW SLEEPING BAG!
I LOVE IT!


EVERYBODY GETS A NEW SLEEPING BAG!
THANKS!
YAY!
SO COZY!

FREE SLEEPING BAGS! WOW, SPIDERS ARE SO NICE!

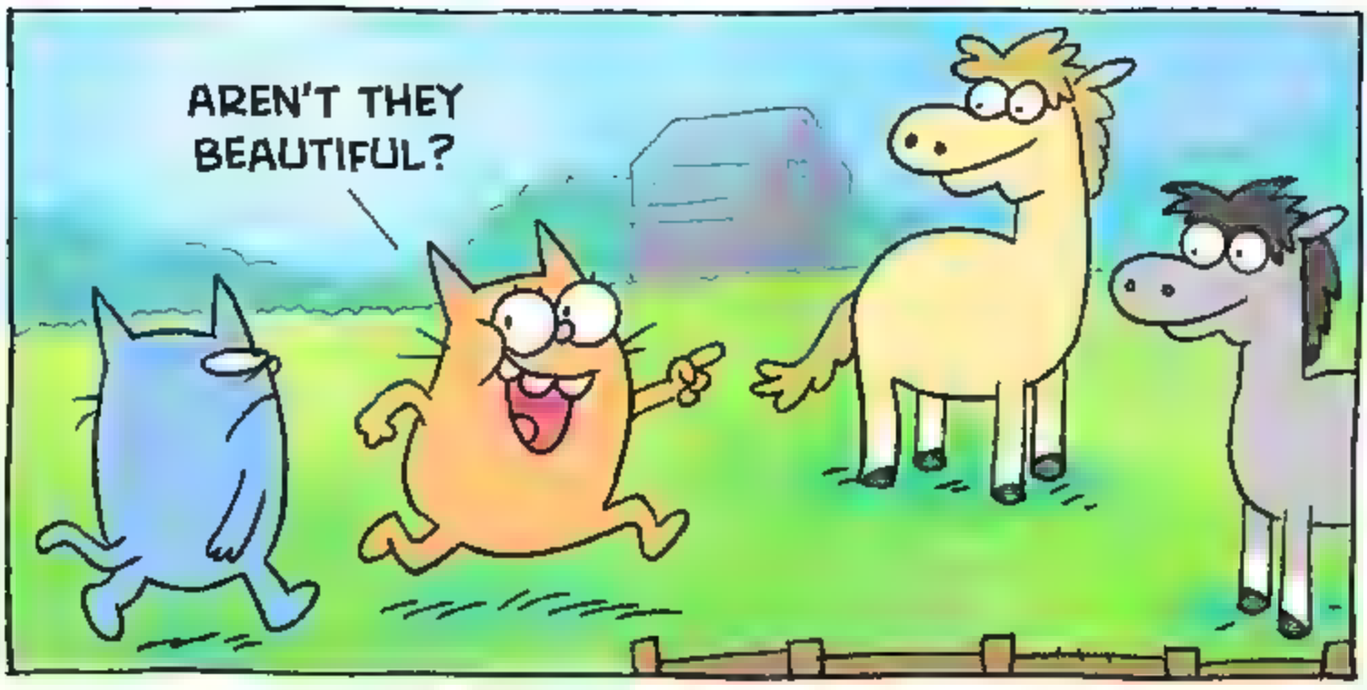

THAT'S NOT WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE, BLURMP.
WHAT?

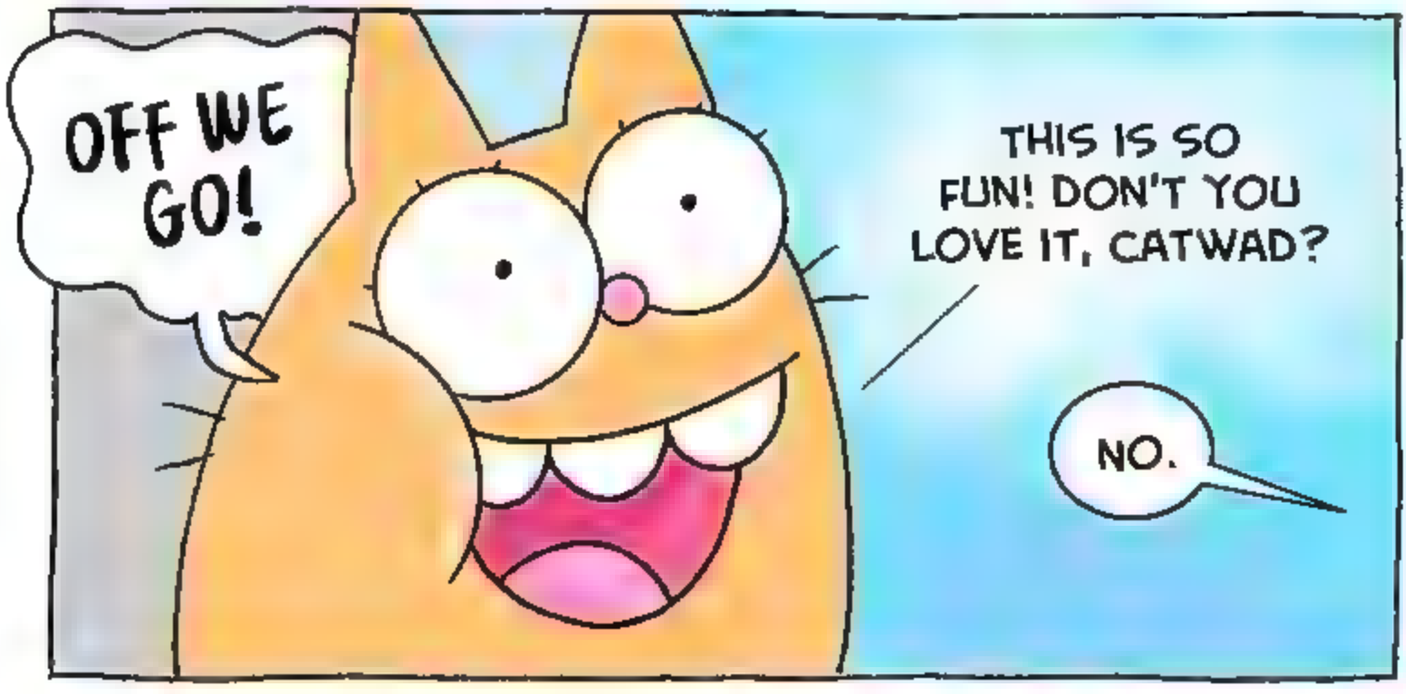
I DON'T WANT YOU TO WORRY, BUT NATURE CAN BE TOUGH.
NATURE IS TOUGH. I UNDERSTAND.
LOOK HOW THIS SNAKE IS CUDDLING THIS MOUSE SO HE WON'T WORRY ABOUT NATURE EITHER.
YEAH... UM...
THAT'S NOT CUDDLING...

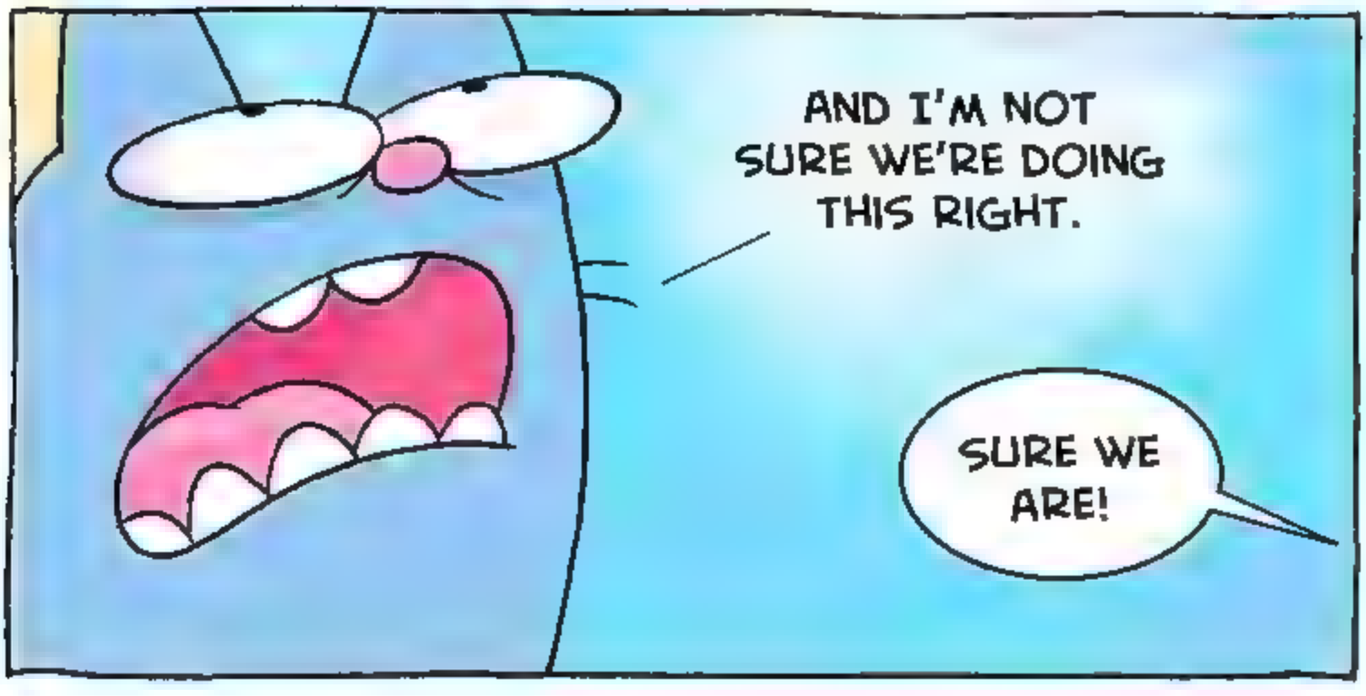
HORSEBACK
RIDING

OH MY GOSH!! WE'RE GOING TO LOVE HORSEBACK RIDING!

I'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE.
ME NEITHER.
BUT THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING.


AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL?

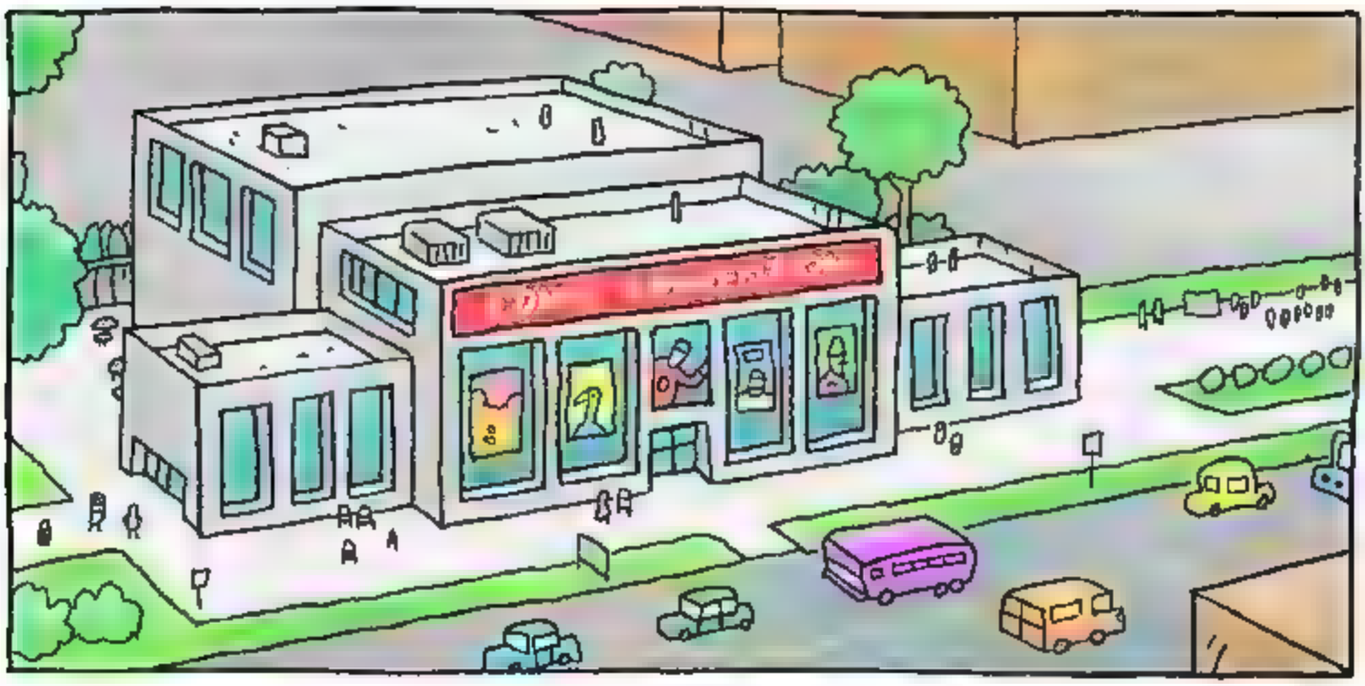

OFF WE GO!
THIS IS SO FUN! DON'T YOU LOVE IT, CATWAD?
NO.


AND I'M NOT SURE WE'RE DOING THIS RIGHT.
SURE WE ARE!

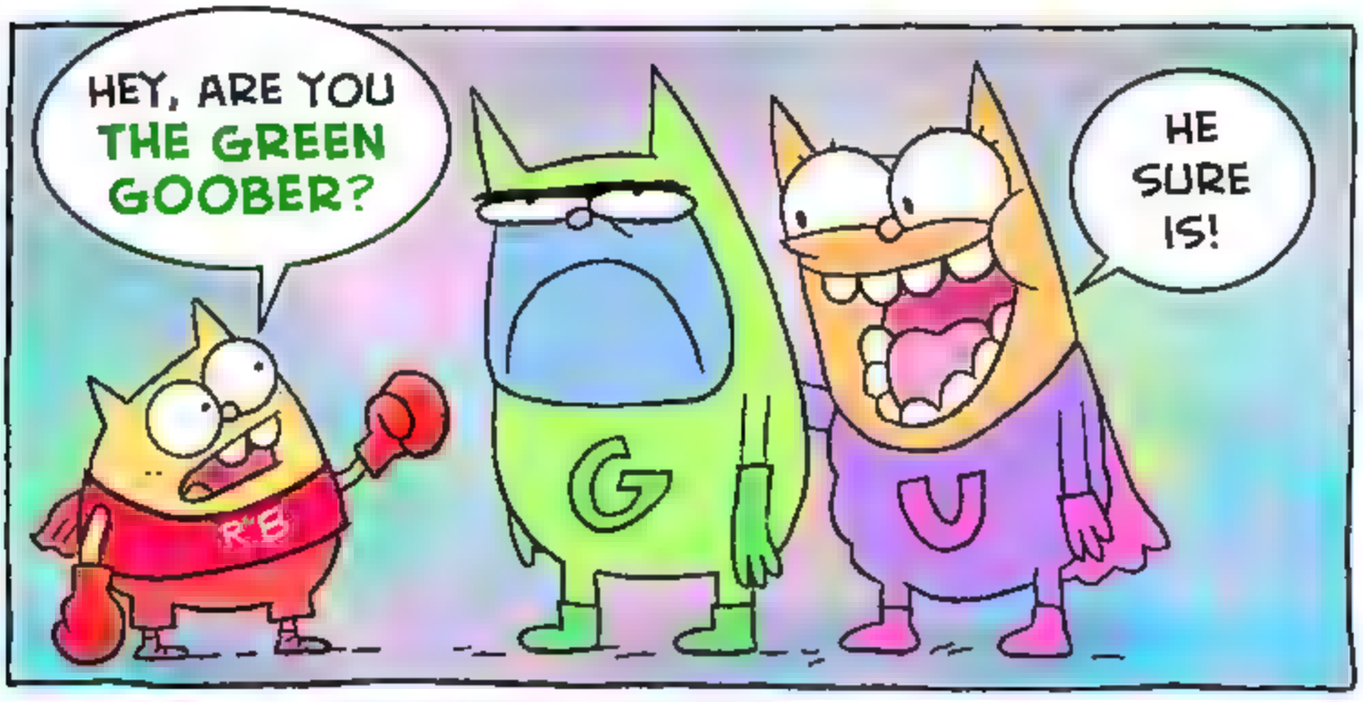
IT'S A HORSE RIDING YOUR BACK.
HOW ELSE COULD WE DO IT?

COMIC
CONVENTION!

TODAY IS THE COMIC CONVENTION!
I'M NOT GOING.
BUT I GOT YOU AN ULTRA BRO COSTUME.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO THAT IS.
EVERYBODY KNOWS ULTRA BRO.
WHO ARE YOU GOING AS?
I'M THE GREEN GOOBER.
I WANT TO TRADE.



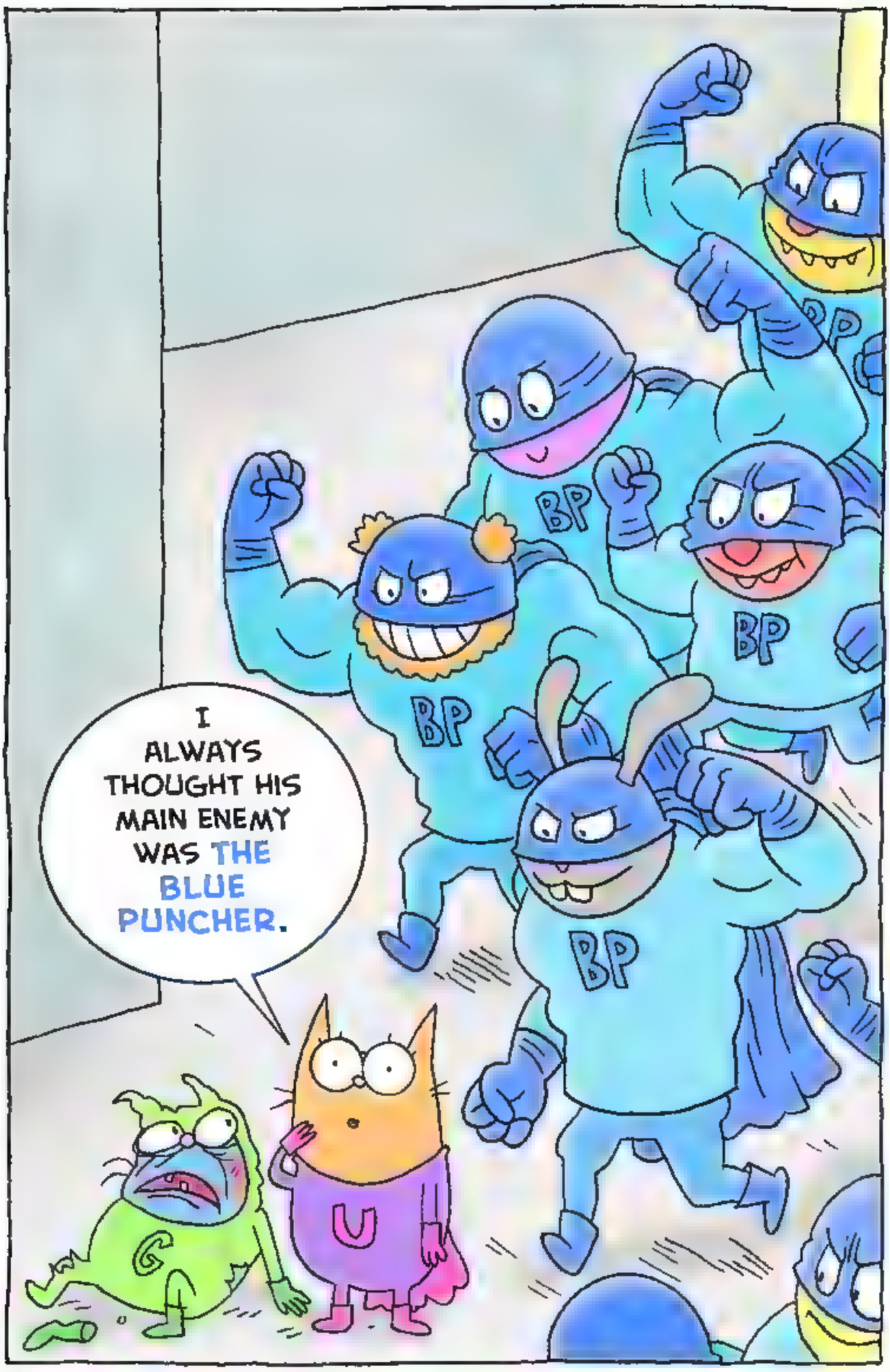
I FEEL DUMB.
YOU LOOK GREAT!


HEY, ARE YOU THE GREEN GOOBER?
HE SURE IS!

WELL, I'M THE RED BOXER, AND THAT MEANS YOU'RE MY ARCHENEMY.
POW!
OOOF
I'M ALSO THE RED BOXER!
POW
ME TOO!
BLAM
TAKE THAT!
POW!
POW
SMASH
BLAM!
POW!

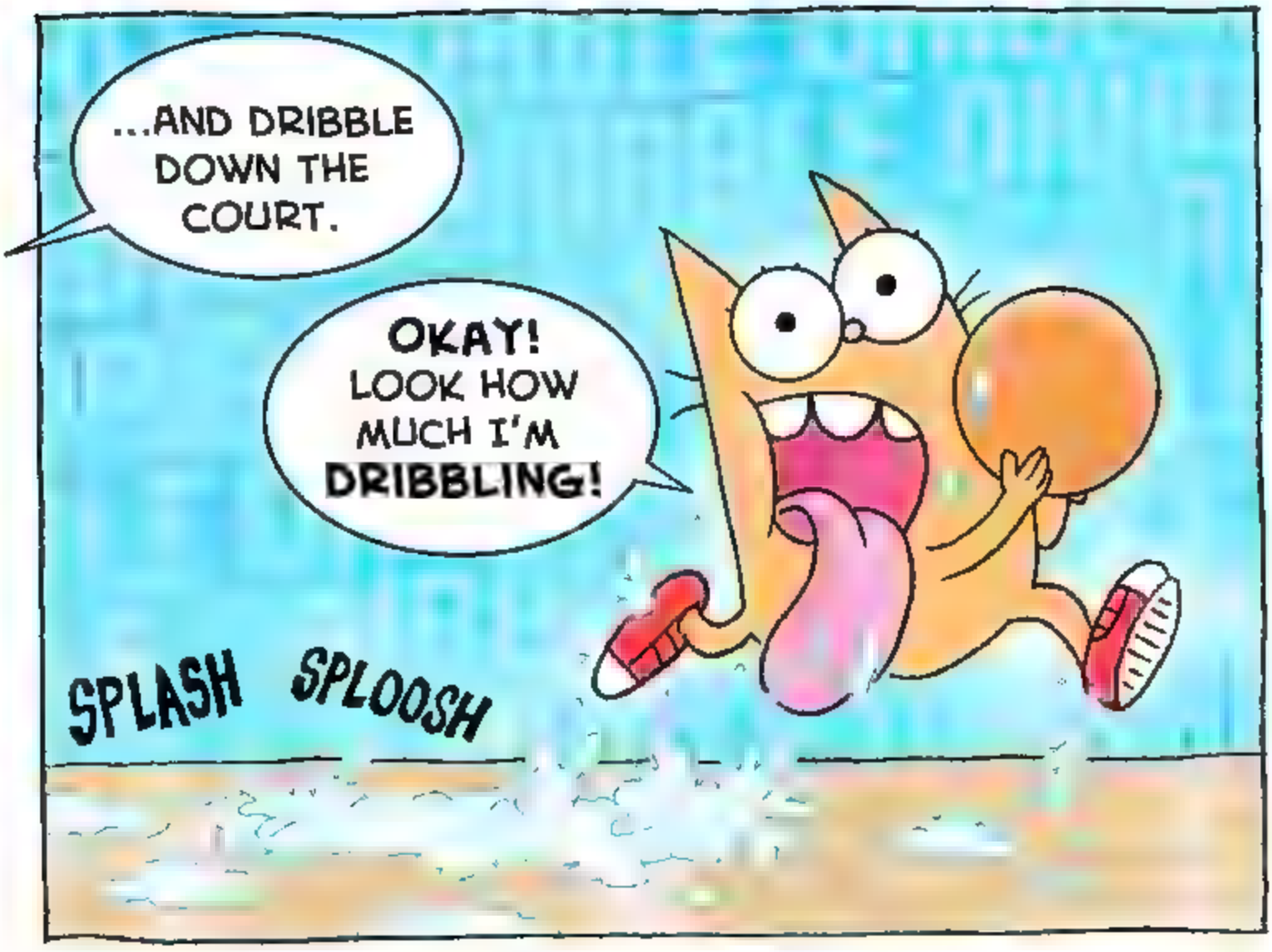
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THAT THE GREEN GOOBER WAS THE RED BOXER'S ENEMY?

I DIDN'T KNOW.


I ALWAYS THOUGHT HIS MAIN ENEMY WAS THE BLUE PUNCHER.
BP
BP
BP
BP
BP

TEAM

I DON'T WANT TO START A BASKETBALL TEAM. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO PLAY.
IT'S EASY. JUST TAKE THE BALL...

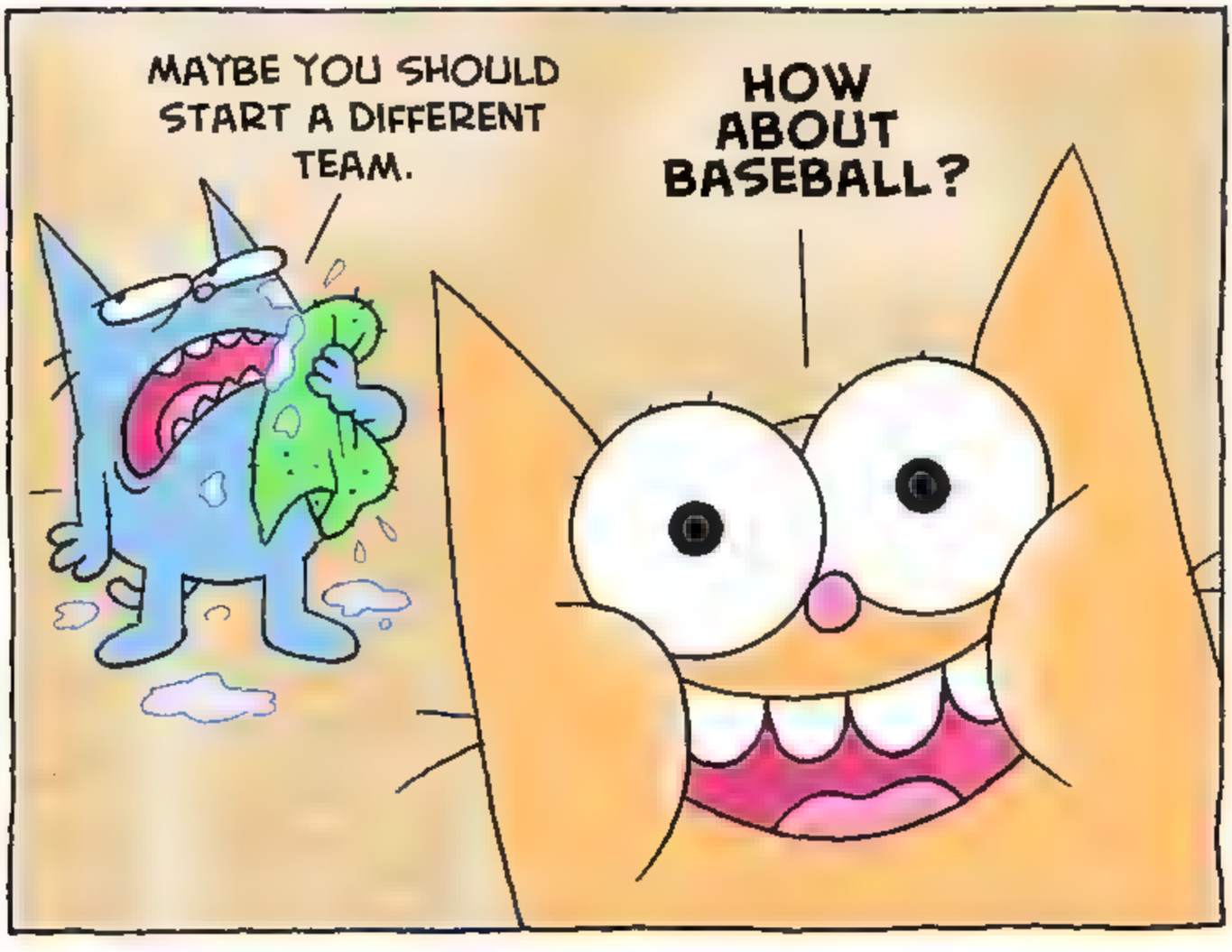

...AND DRIBBLE DOWN THE COURT.
OKAY! LOOK HOW MUCH I'M DRIBBLING!
SPLASH
SPLOOSH

NOT THAT KIND OF DRIBBLING!
SHLIP!
SPLAT!
NOW WHAT DO I DO?
JUST SHOOT THE BALL.

TO WASH THE DRIBBLE OFF, RIGHT?
GOT IT!
SHEW!

NO NO NO!
JUST PUT IT IN THE BASKET.

BASKET!
GOT IT!

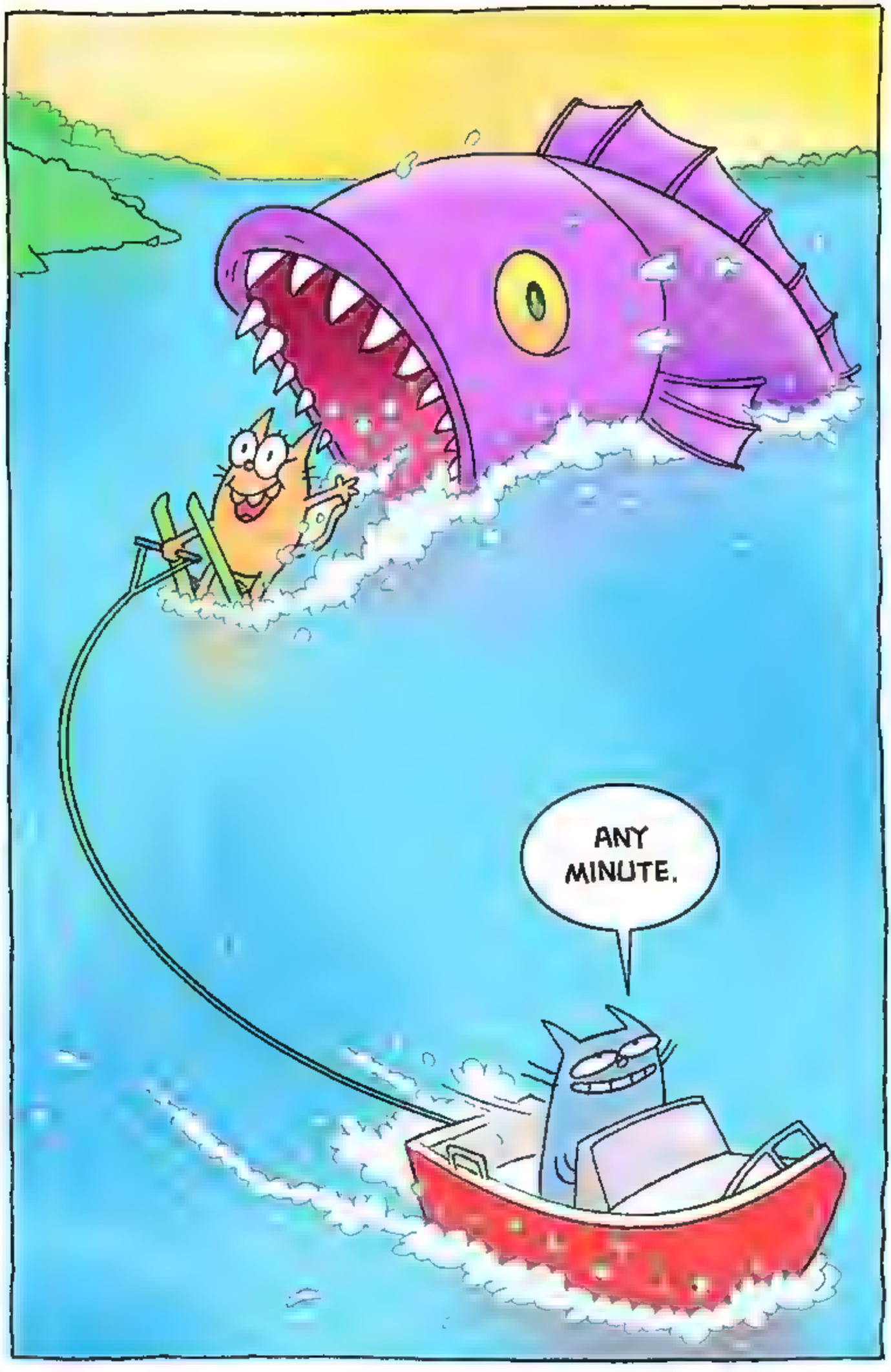

MAYBE YOU SHOULD START A DIFFERENT TEAM.
HOW ABOUT BASEBALL?

I ALREADY
HAVE A
GREAT PITCHER!

Water Sports

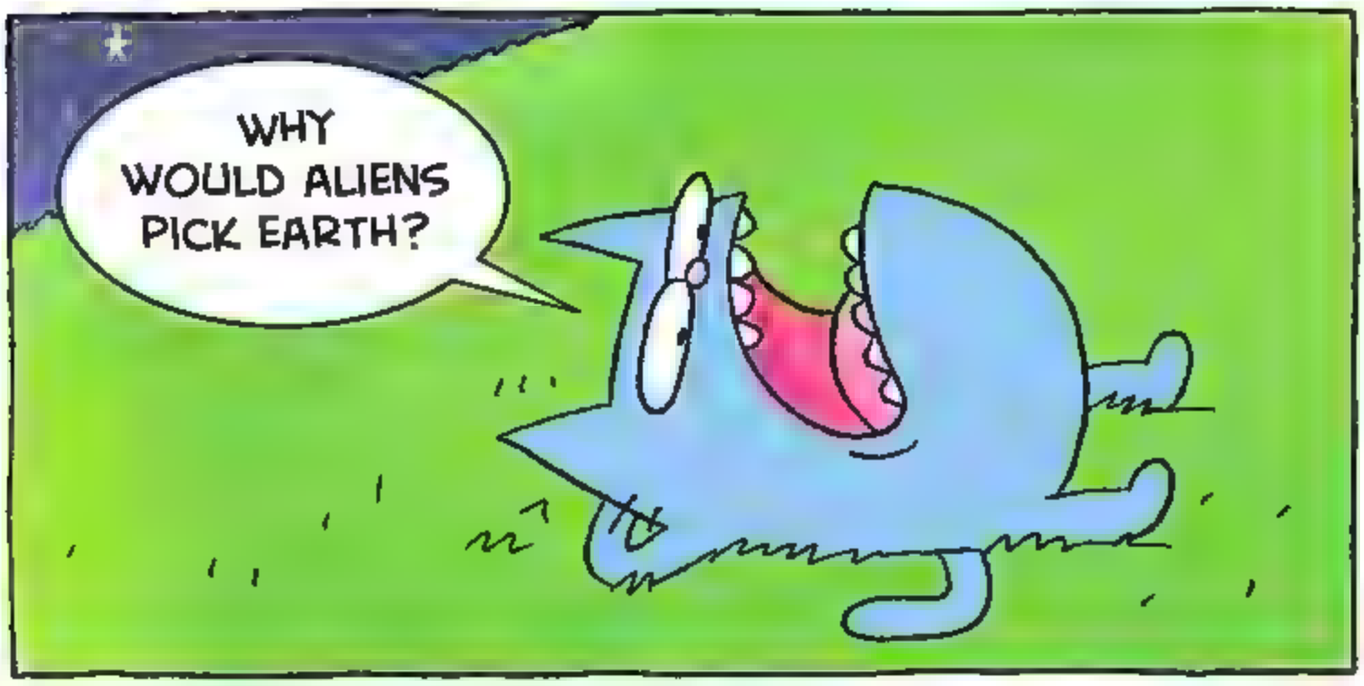
HEY, BLURMP! YOU WANT TO GO WATERSKIING AND FISHING?
SPLASH!!
THIS SOUNDS GREAT!

YAY! WATER-SKIING!
WOOOOOOOOOO!!
HEY, WHEN ARE WE GOING TO GO FISHING?

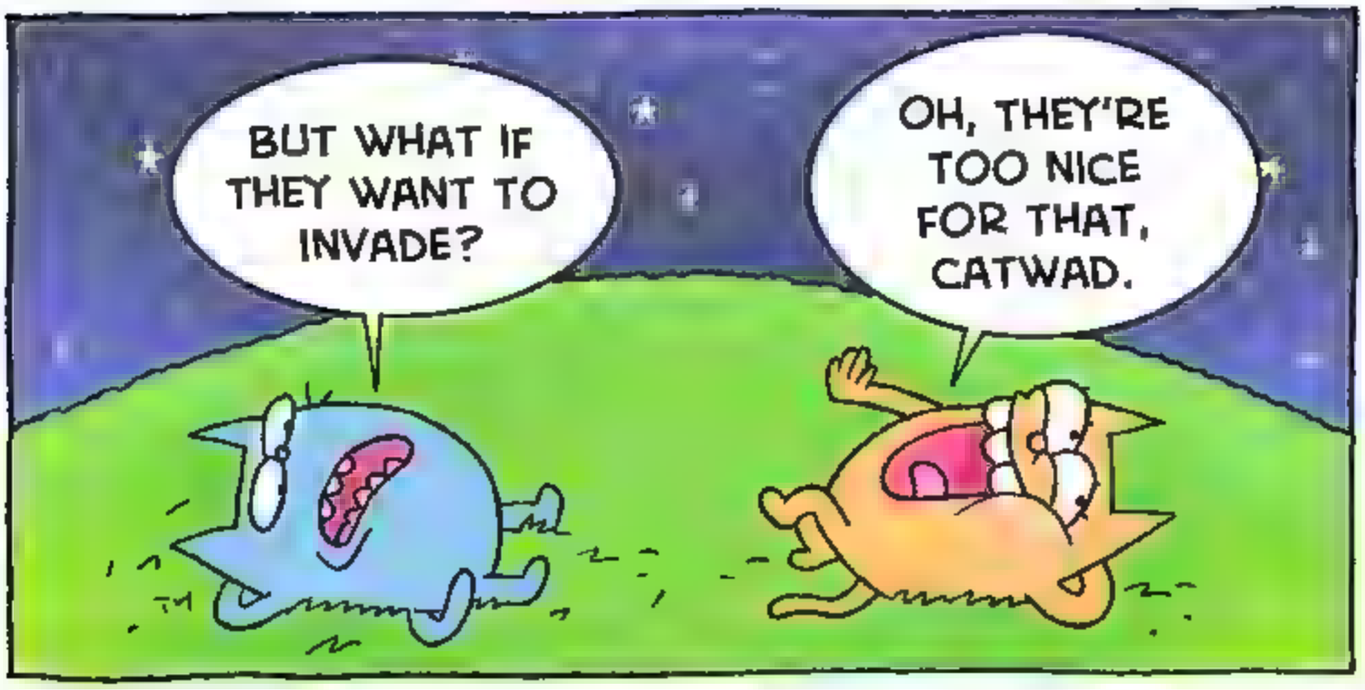

ANY MINUTE.

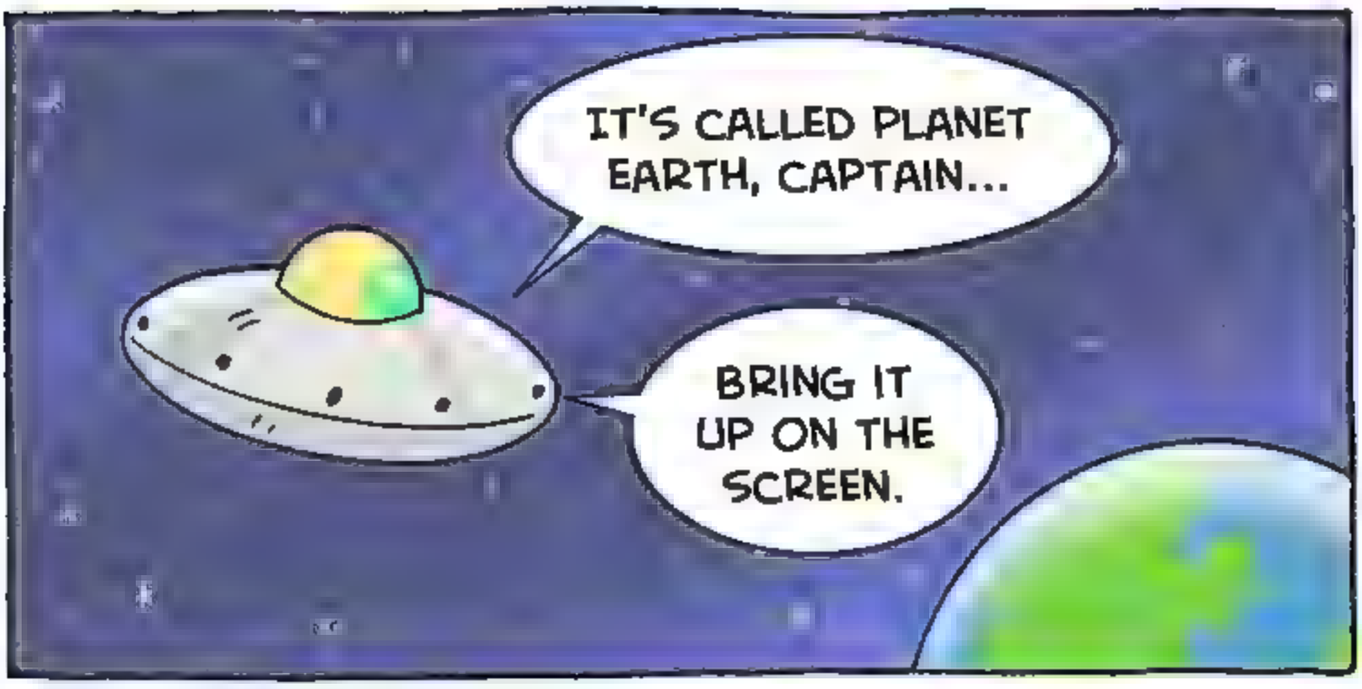
VISITORS

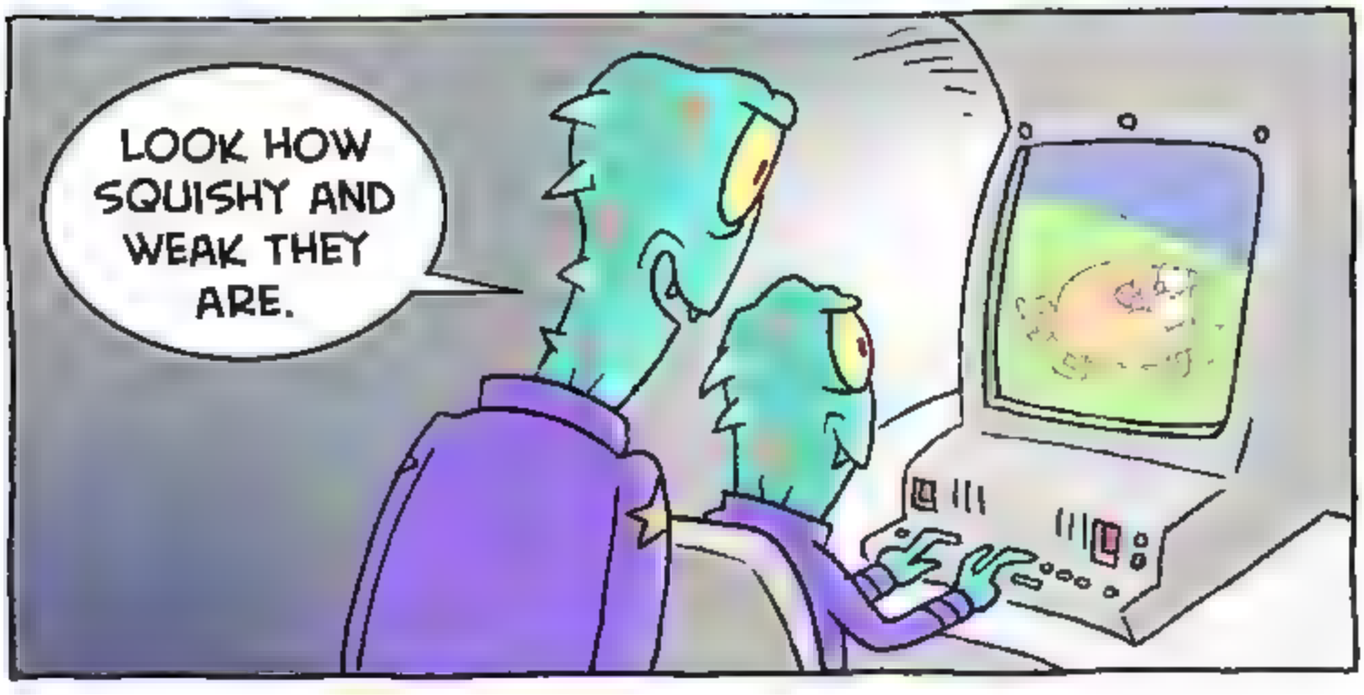
DO YOU THINK ALIENS WILL EVER VISIT EARTH?

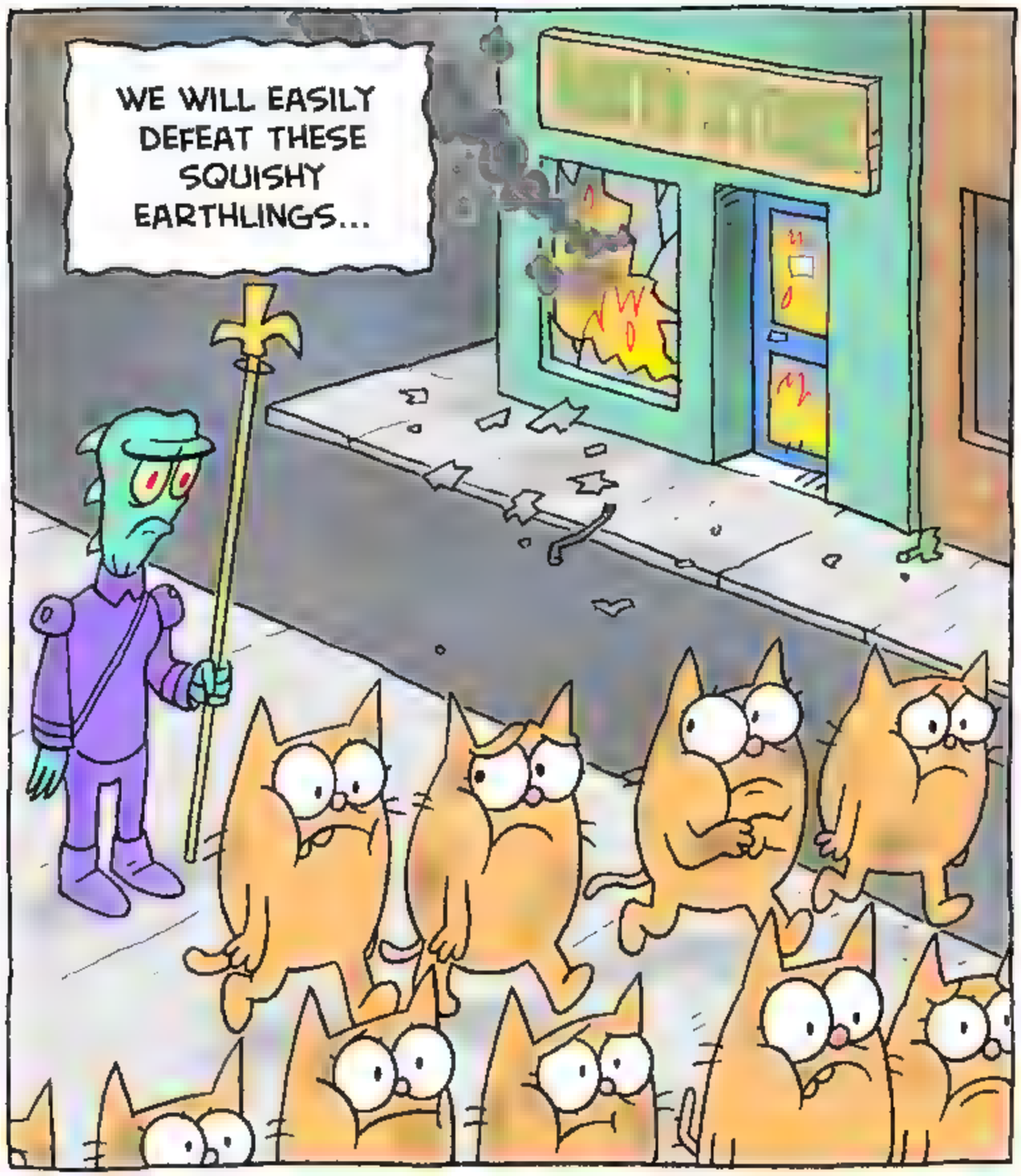

WHY WOULD ALIENS PICK EARTH?

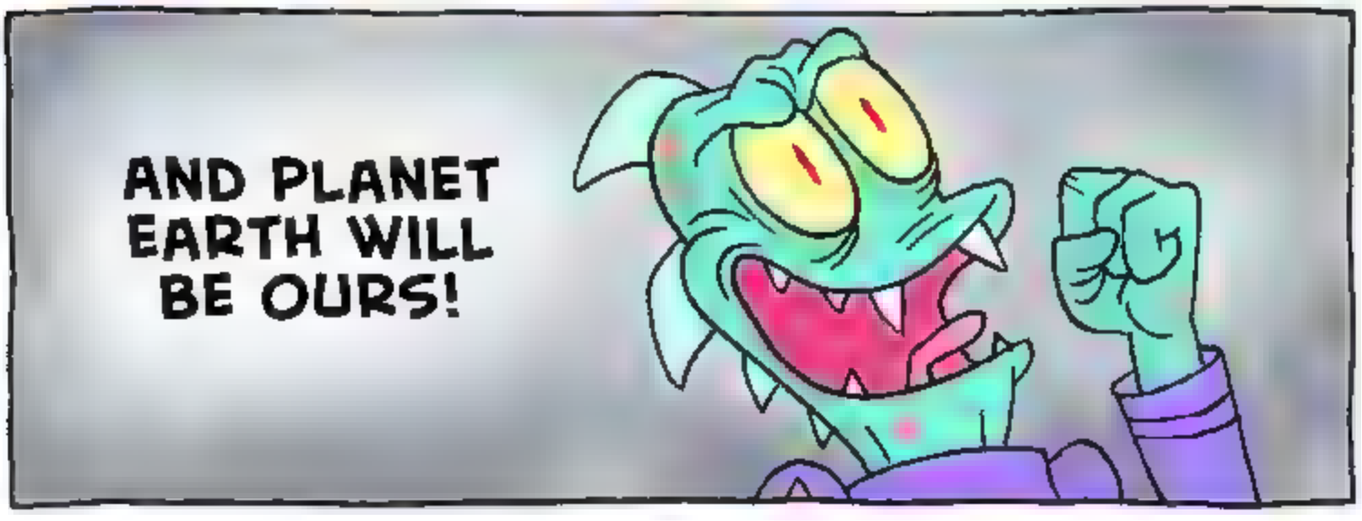
BECAUSE THEY'RE NICE AND WE'RE NICE AND WE CAN BE FRIENDS!


BUT WHAT IF THEY WANT TO INVADE?
OH, THEY'RE TOO NICE FOR THAT, CATWAD.

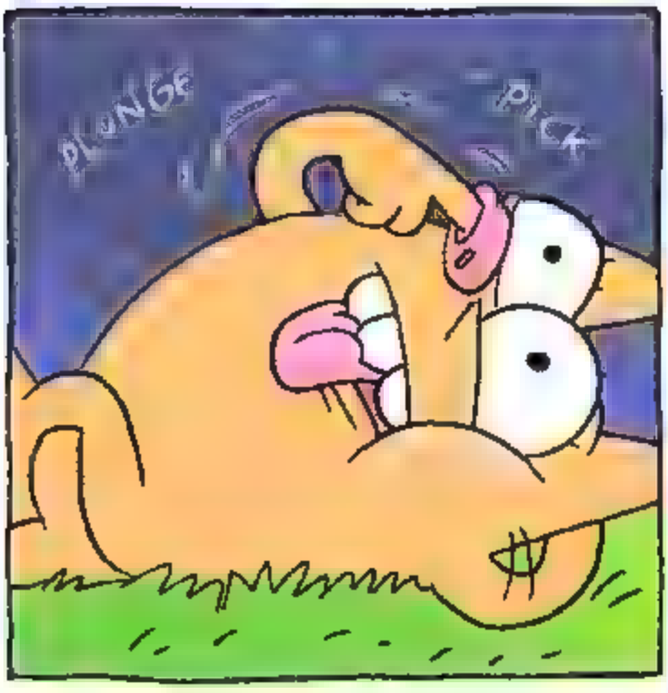

IT'S CALLED PLANET EARTH, CAPTAIN...
BRING IT UP ON THE SCREEN.

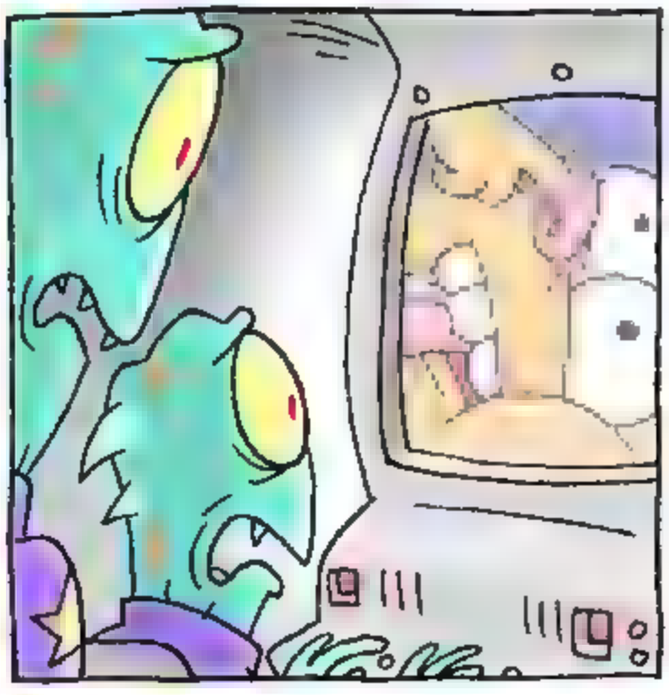

LOOK HOW SQUISHY AND WEAK THEY ARE.


WE WILL EASILY DEFEAT THESE SQUISHY EARTHLINGS...


AND PLANET EARTH WILL BE OURS!

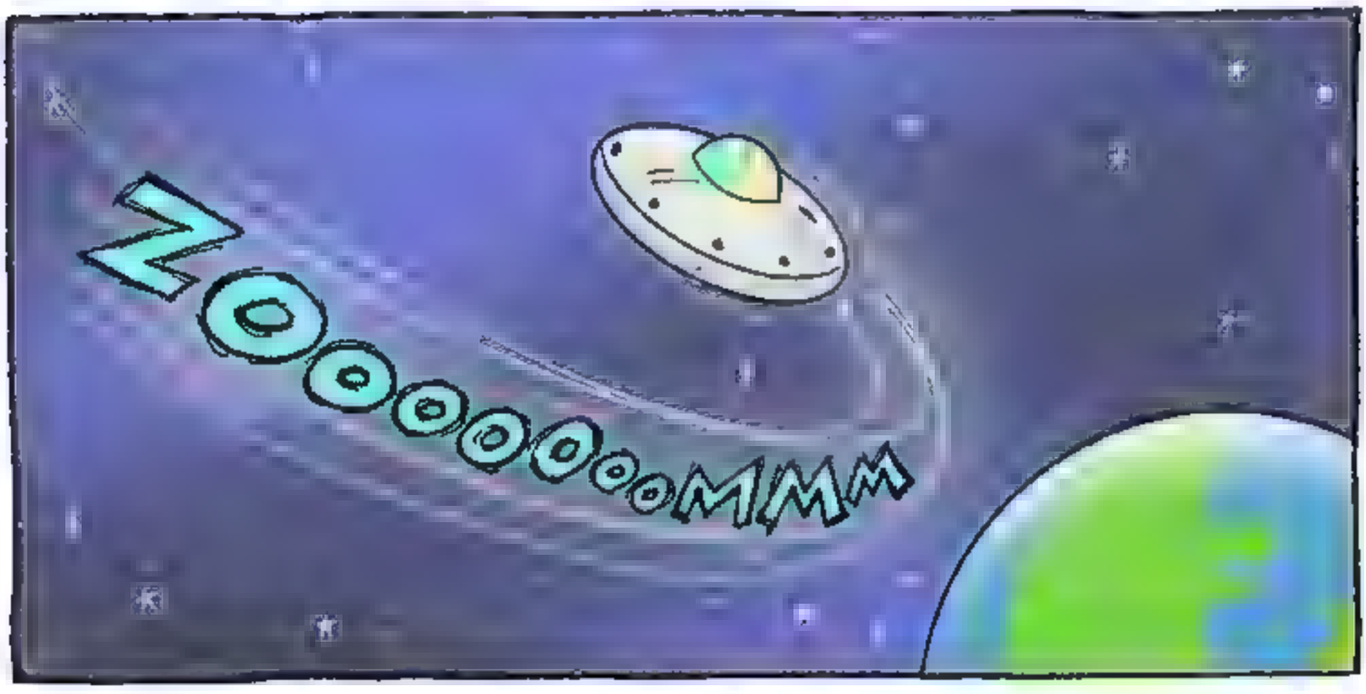
JAMI


PLUNGE
PICK



DIG
GRIND
PICK

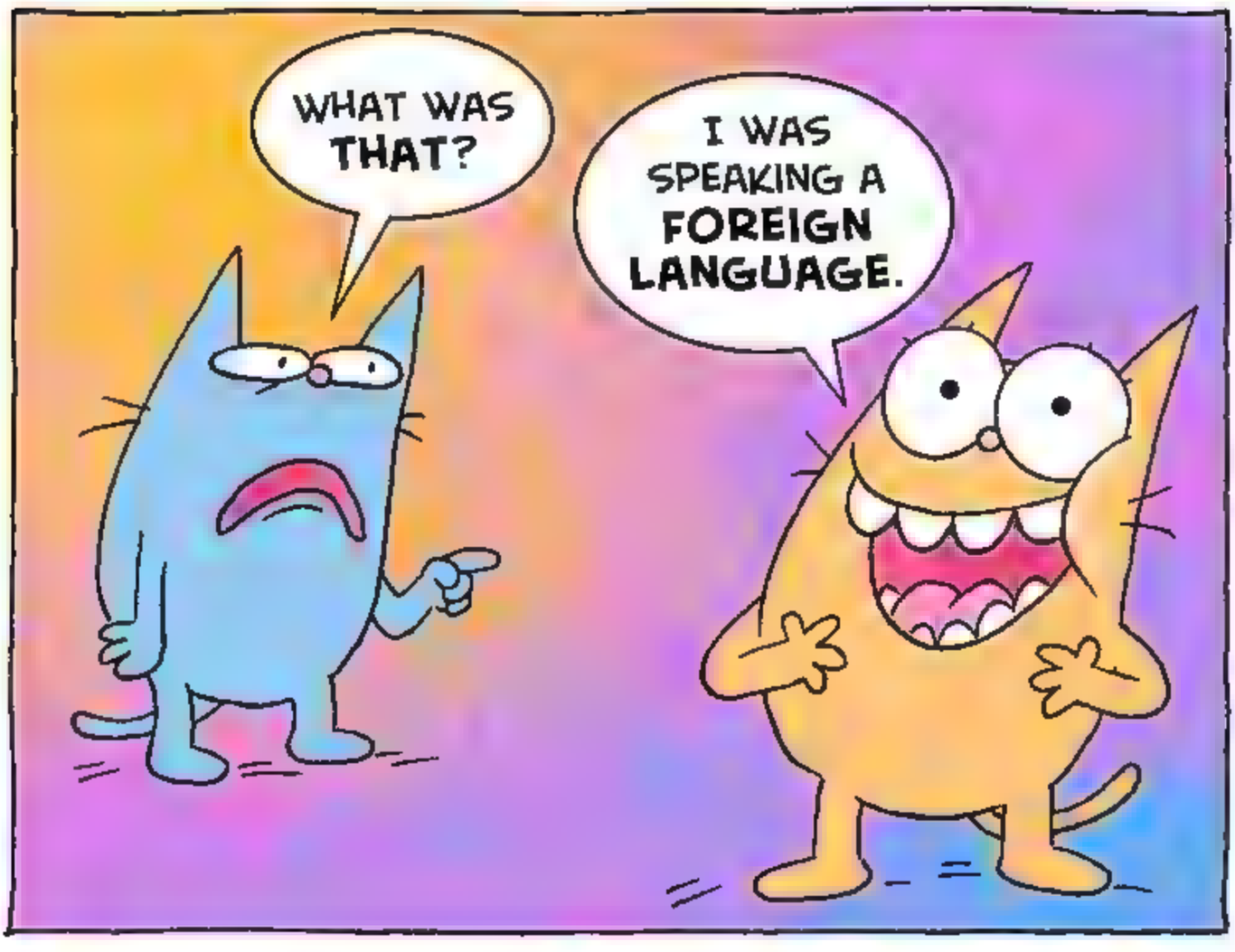
THE EARTHLING HAS ACTIVATED SOME KIND OF SUPER GROSSNESS POWER!
RETREAT!

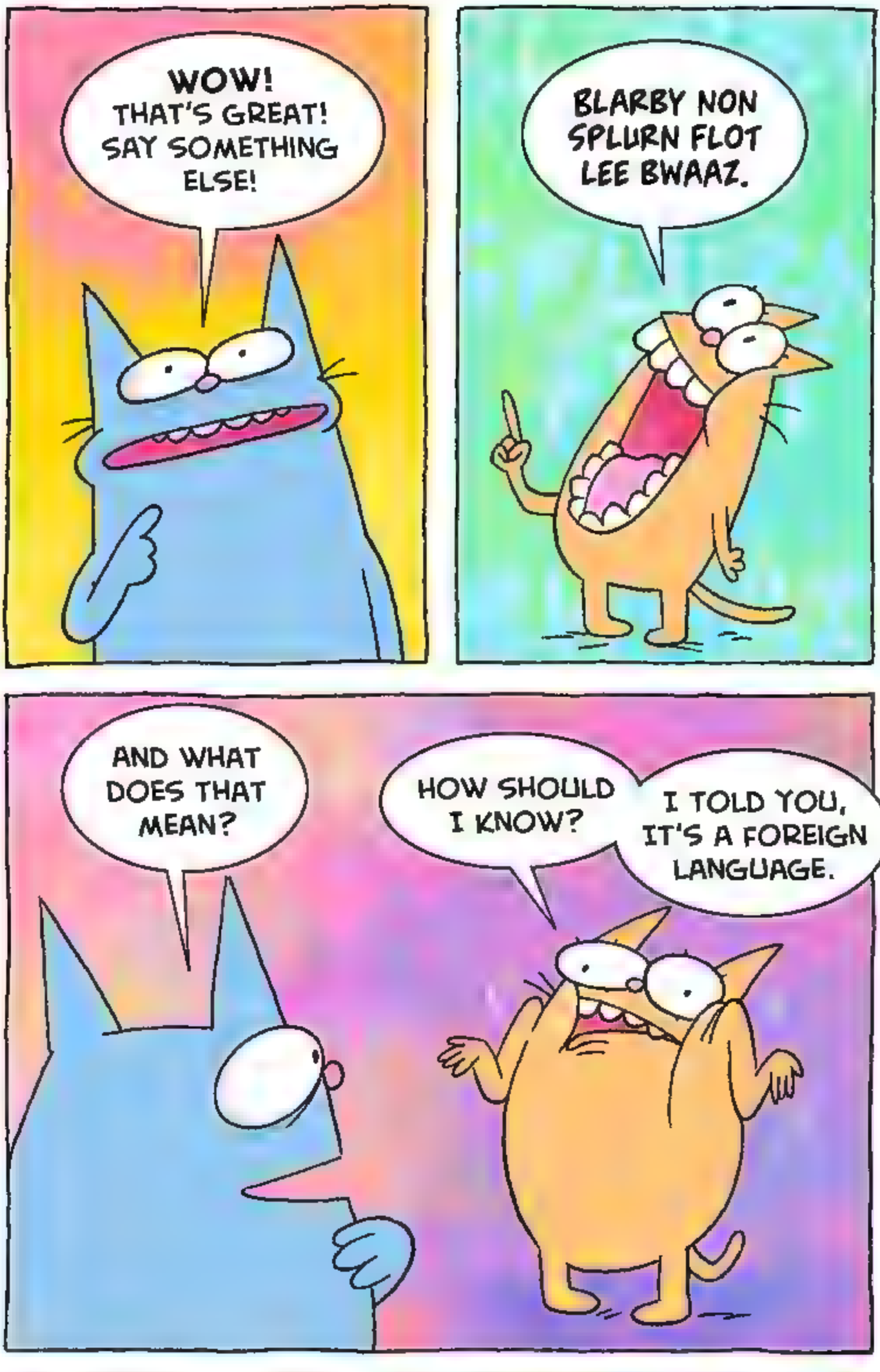

ZOOOOOOOMMM

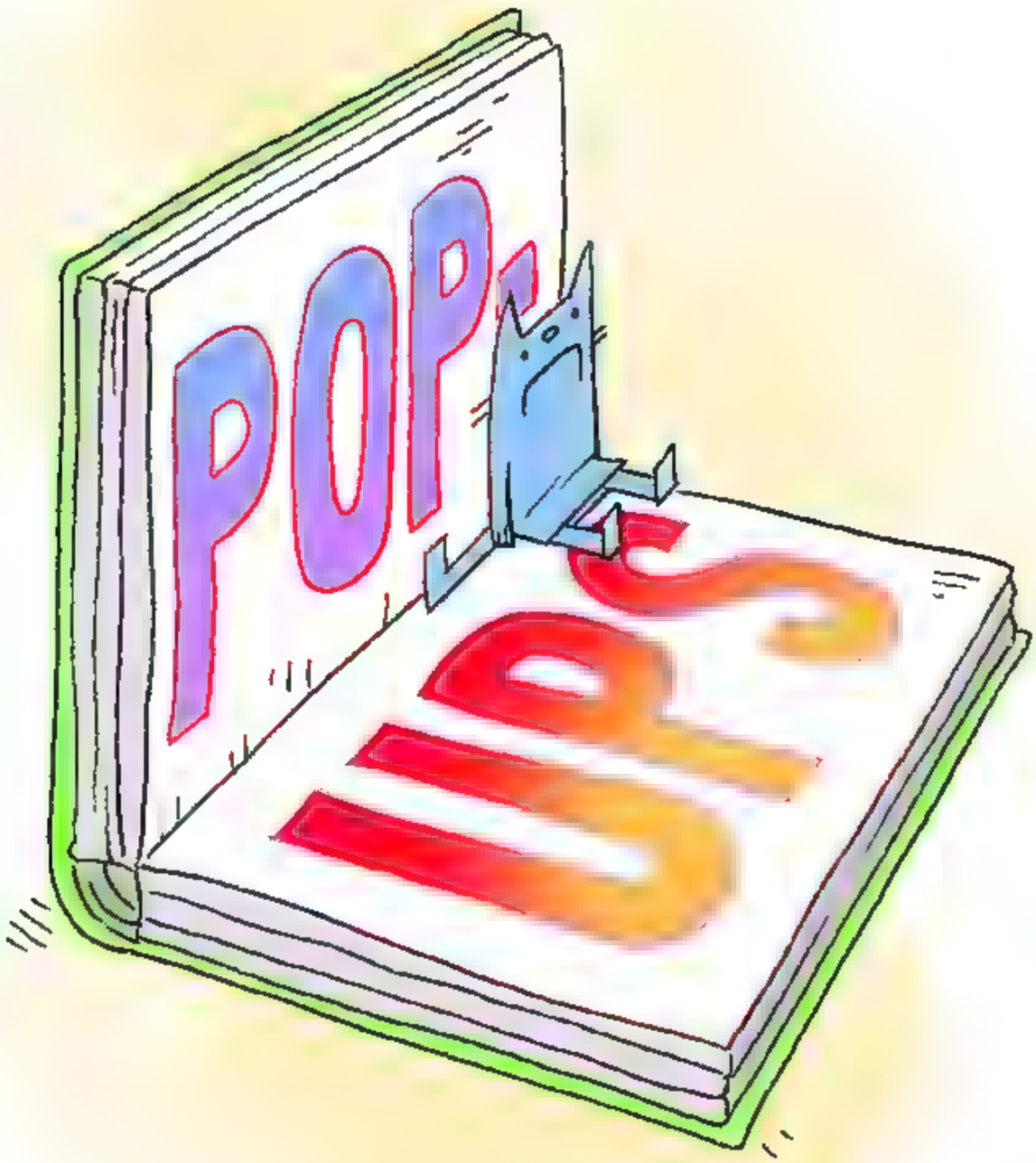
DID YOU HEAR THAT COMET SCREAM "EEEEWW"?

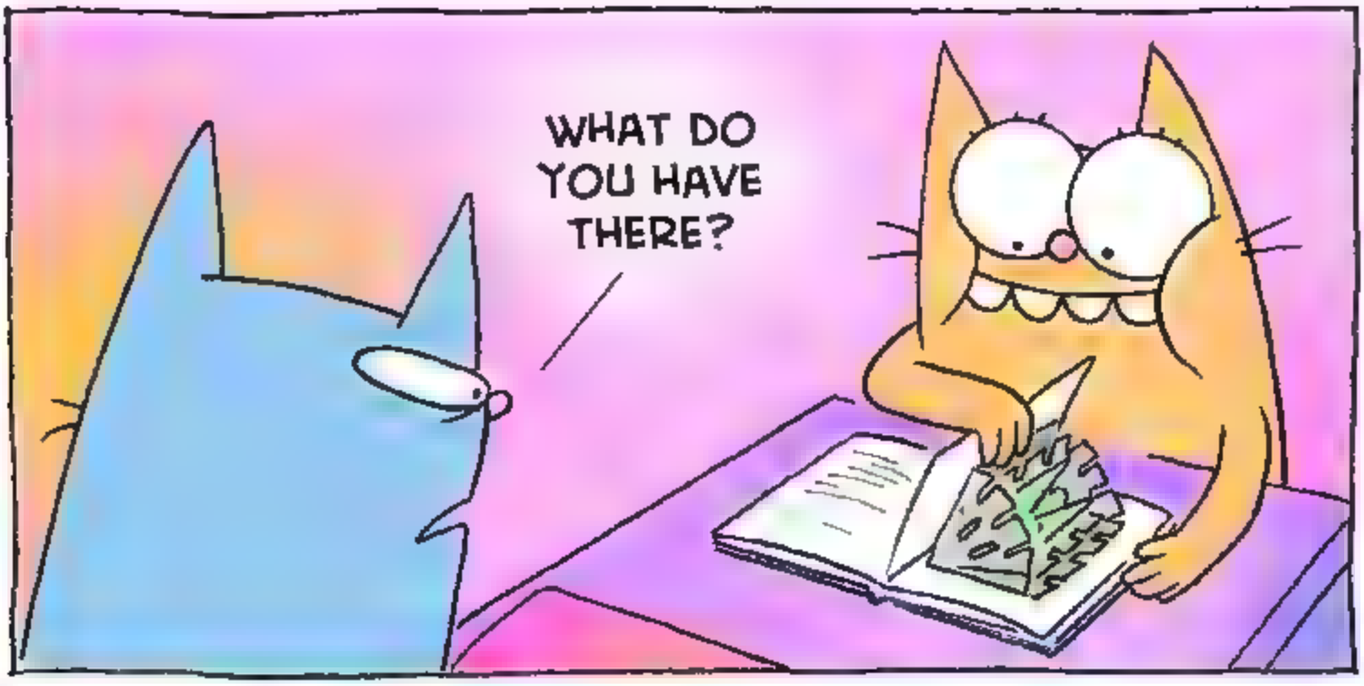
LANGUAGE

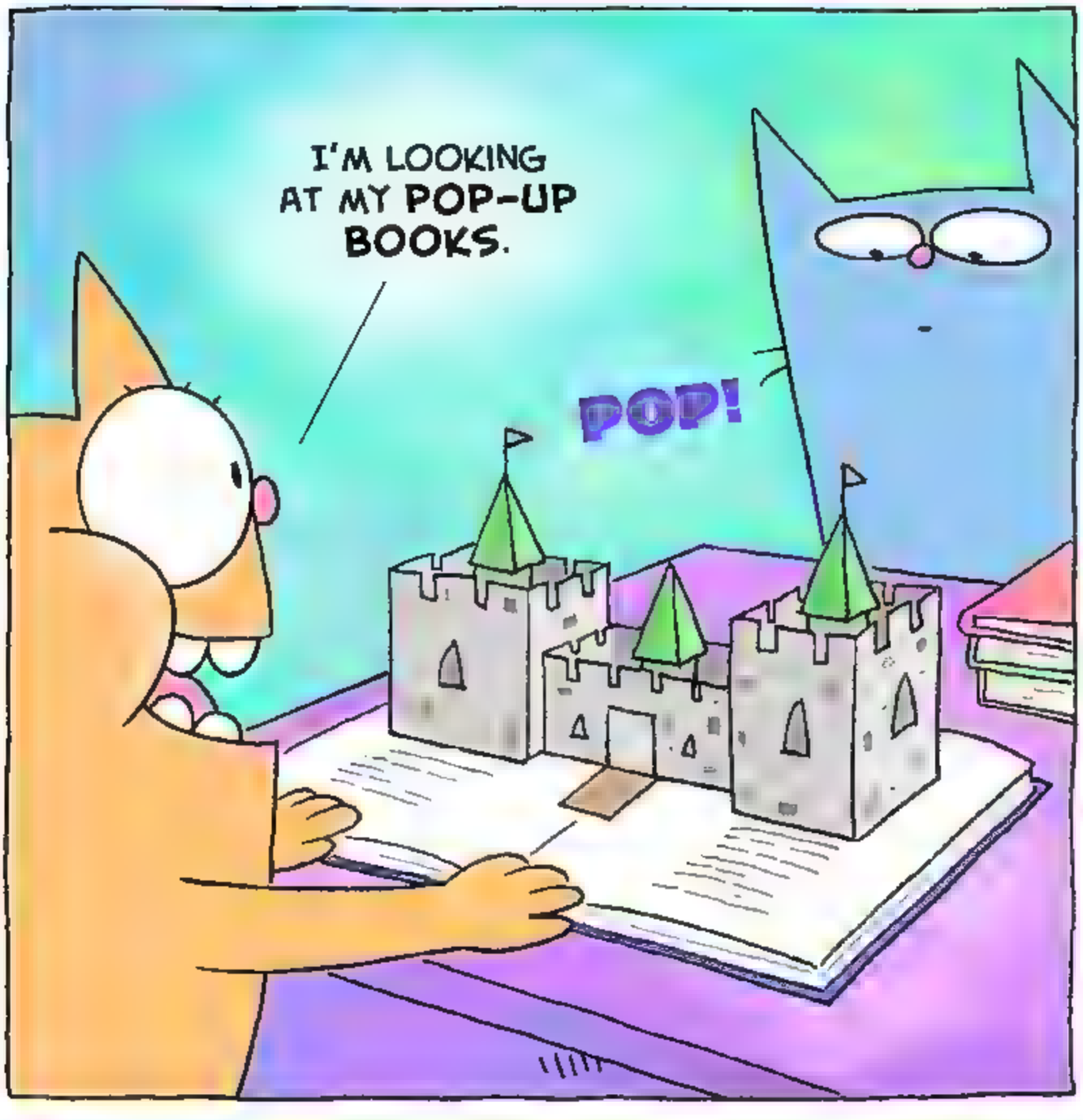
TORP PUGGLE MONSO DER SHMUB MIT GLURP.

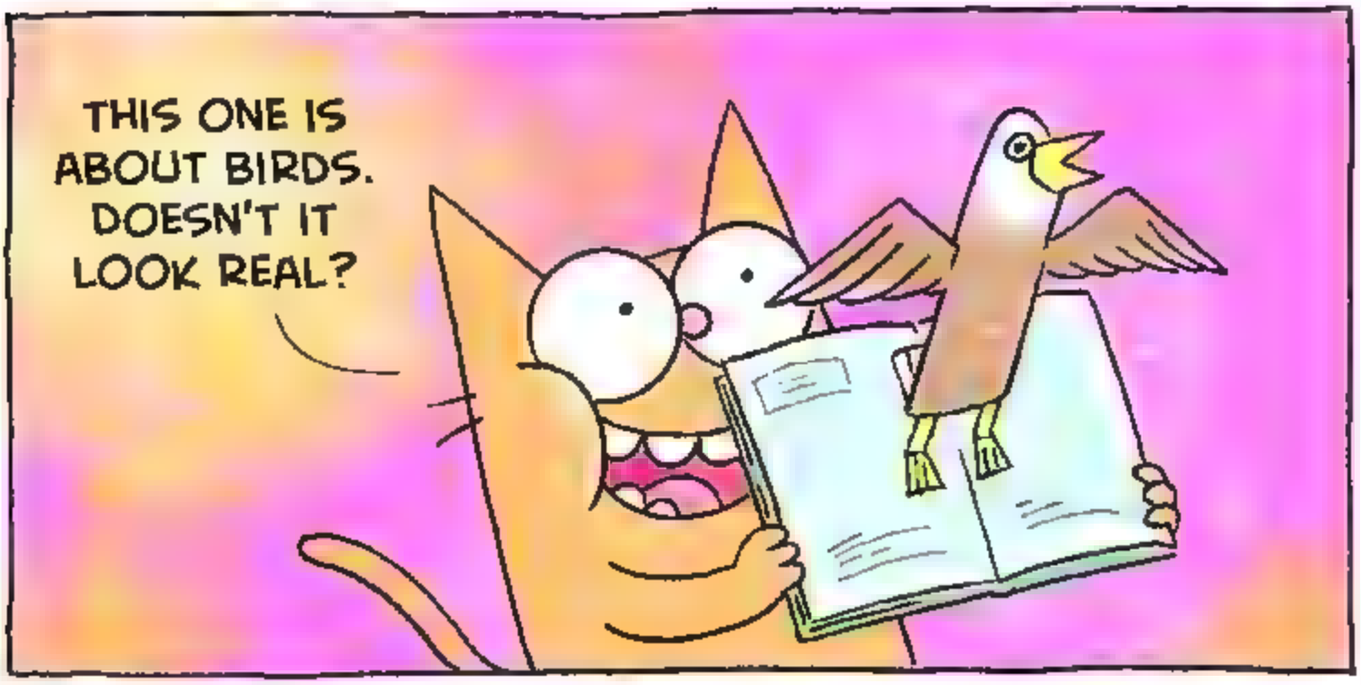

WHAT WAS THAT?
I WAS SPEAKING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE.

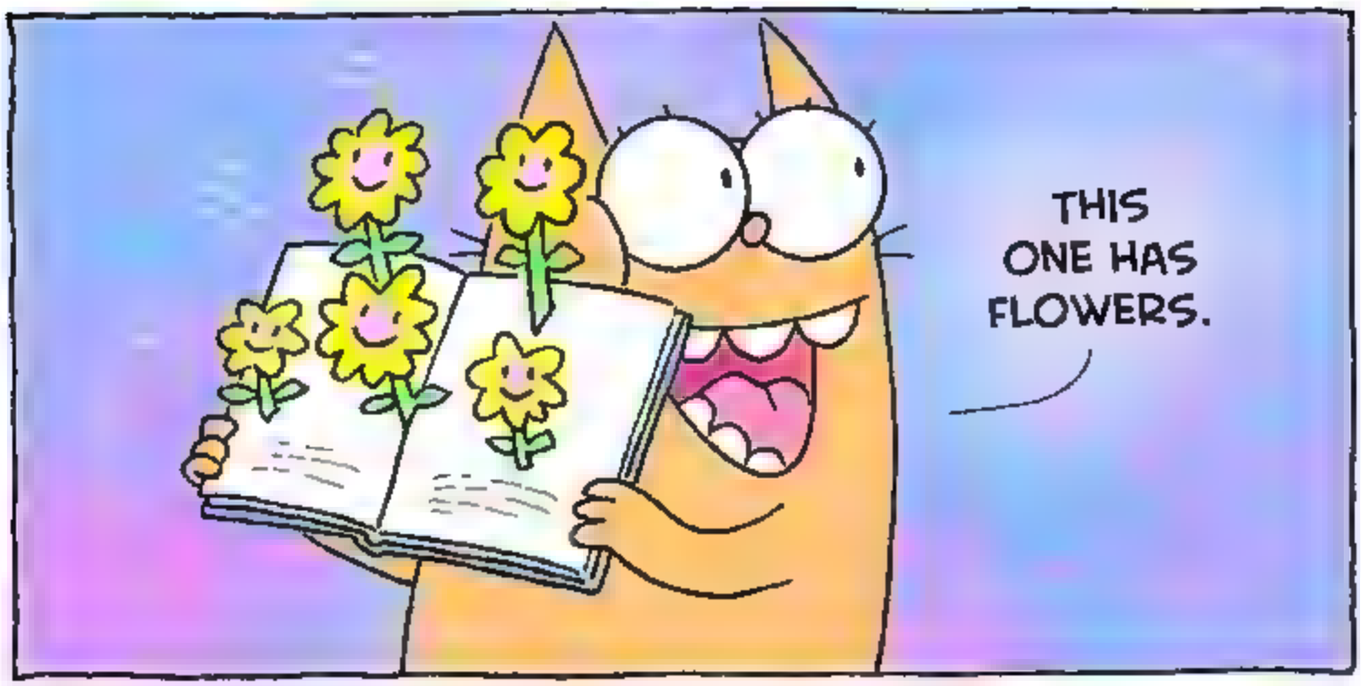

WOW! THAT'S GREAT! SAY SOMETHING ELSE!
BLARBY NON SPLURN FLOT LEE BWAAZ.
AND WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
I TOLD YOU, IT'S A FOREIGN LANGUAGE.


POP
UPS


WHAT DO YOU HAVE THERE?

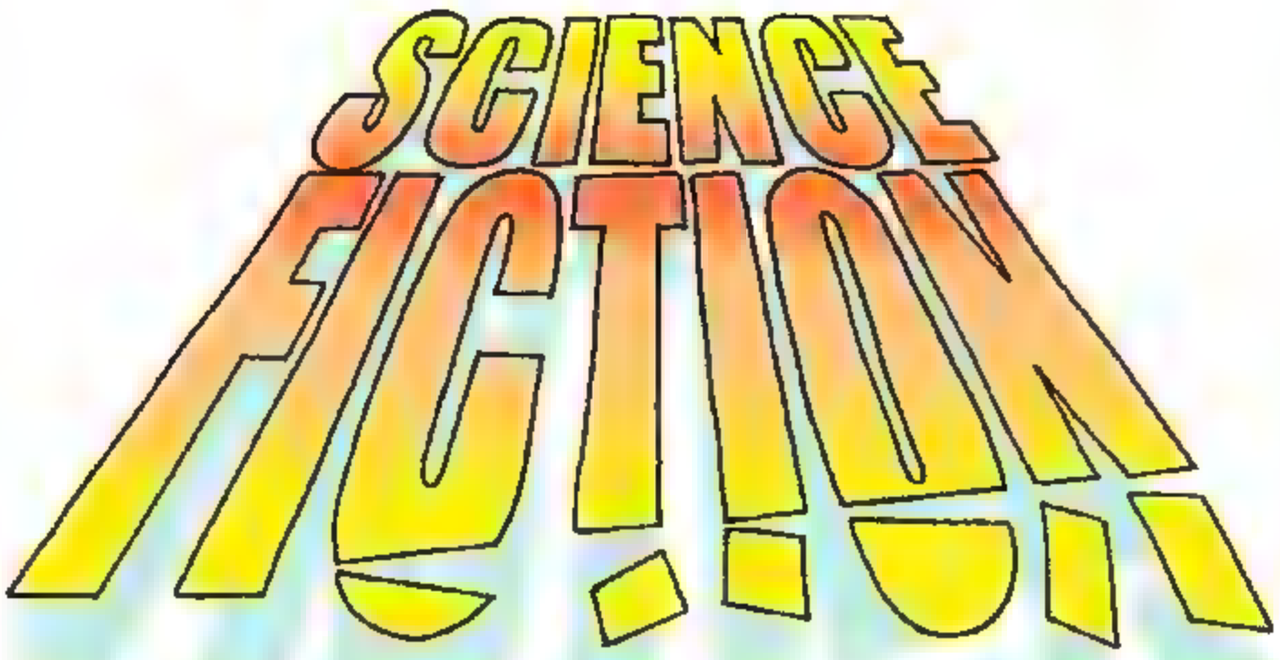

I'M LOOKING AT MY POP-UP BOOKS.
POP!


THIS ONE IS ABOUT BIRDS. DOESN'T IT LOOK REAL?


THIS ONE HAS FLOWERS.

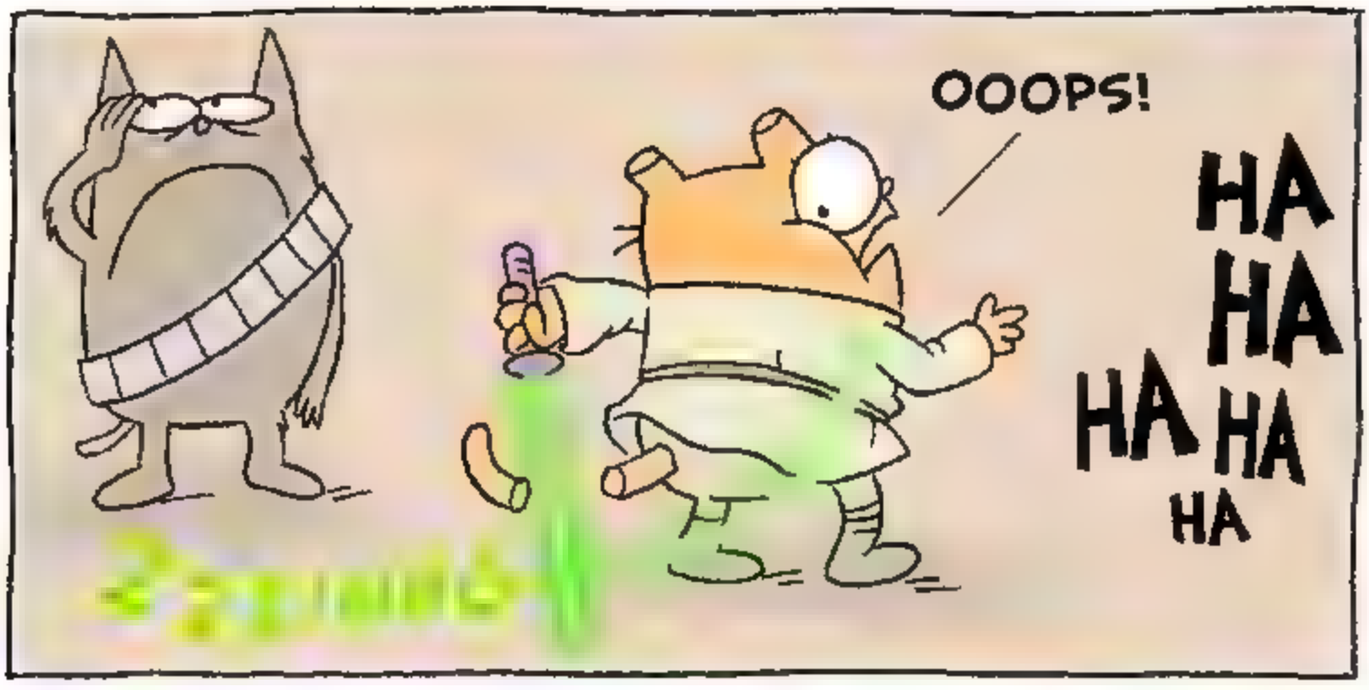
WHAT'S THIS ONE ABOUT?

I GUESS THE "D" STANDS FOR DUCKS.
IS THERE A CHANCE IT MIGHT STAND FOR DRAGONS?
I CAN'T REMEMBER. MAYBE.


SCIENCE
FICTION

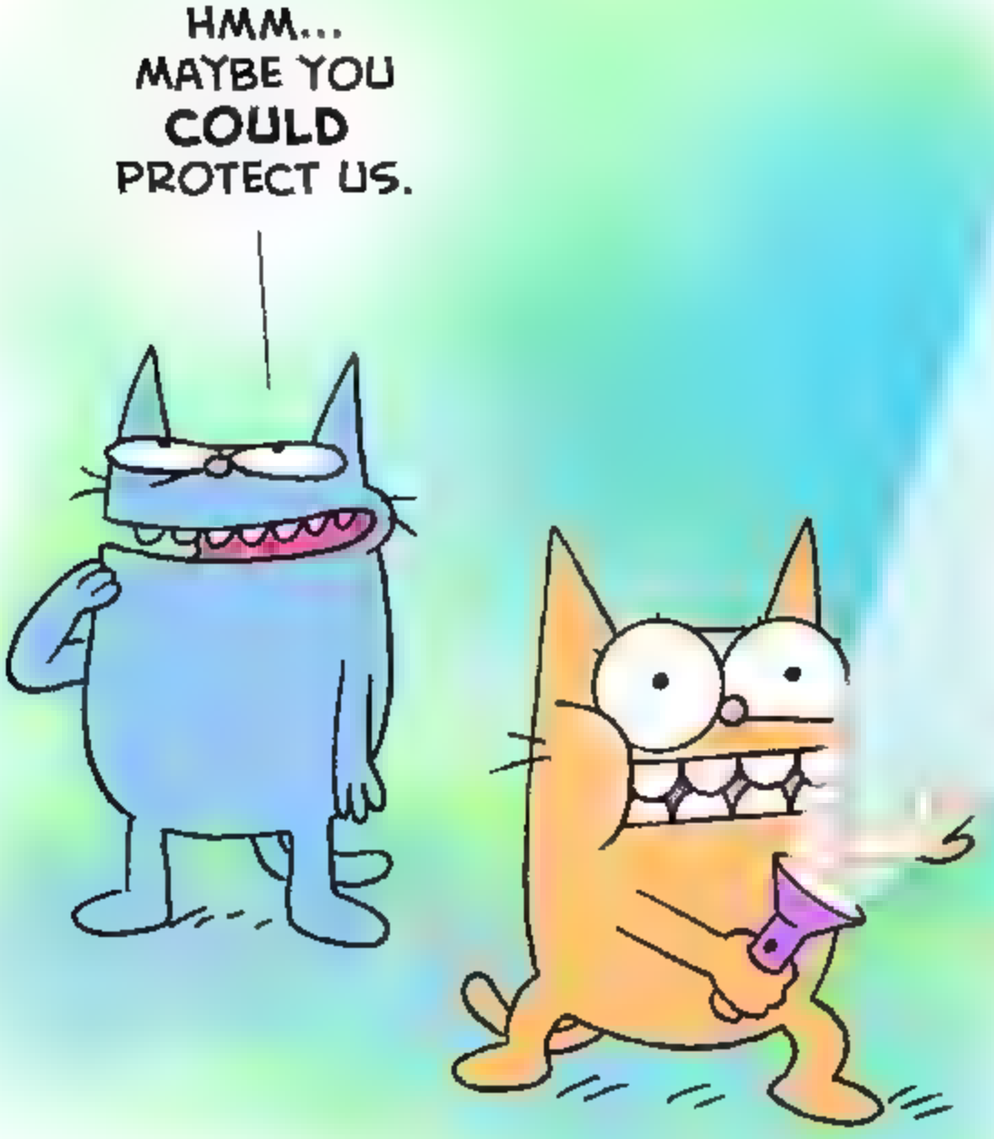
WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT TO LIVE IN A SCIENCE-FICTION WORLD?
NOPE. TOO DANGEROUS.
I COULD PROTECT US.
WITH WHAT? THAT FLASHLIGHT?
IN A SCIENCE-FICTION WORLD...
THIS WOULDN'T BE JUST A FLASHLIGHT...

ZZZBEOW!
STAY BACK, CATWAD!
YOU MAY NOT PASS!
ZZRRM!
HA HA HA
OOPS!


OOOPS!
HA
HA
HA HA
HA

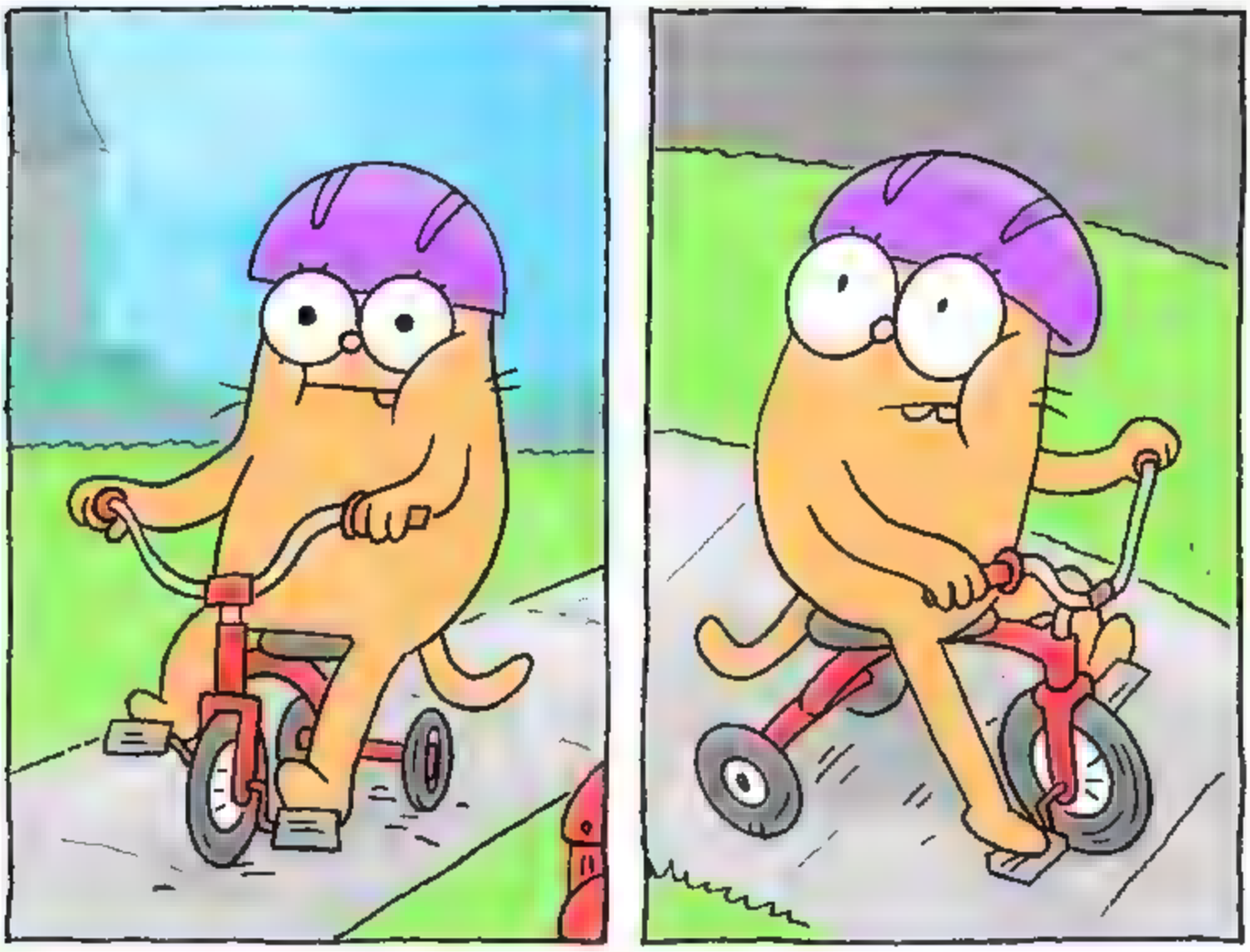
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
OOPS!

HA HA HA STOP! STOP! HA HA HA

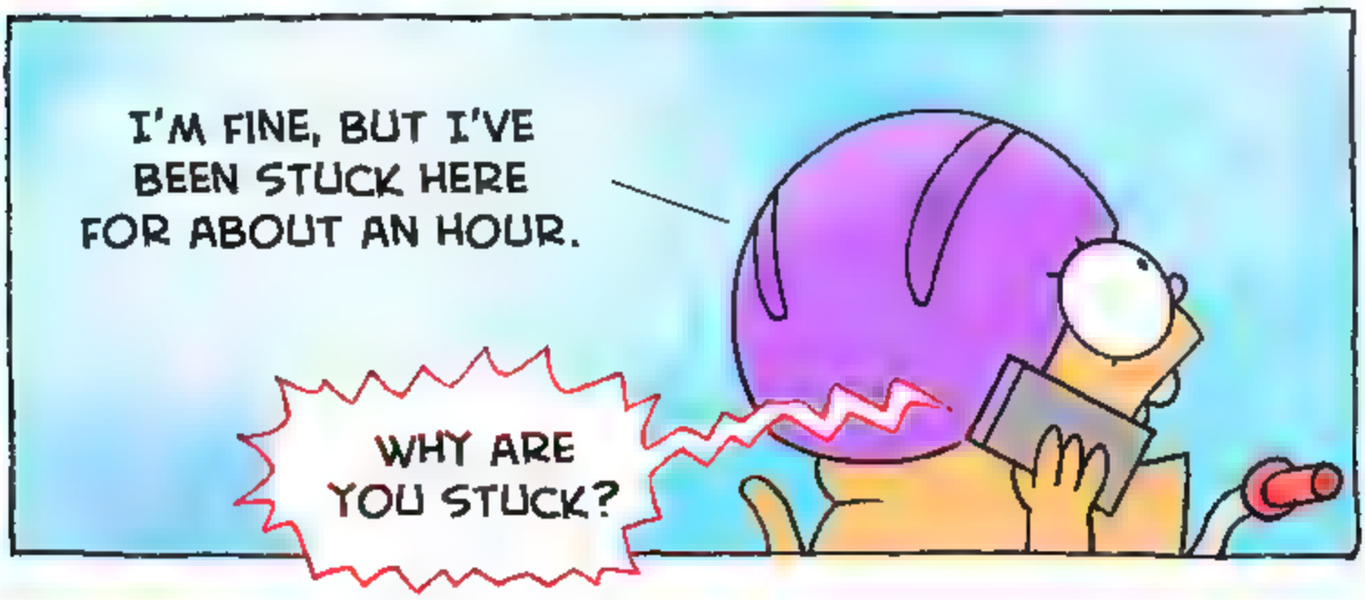

HMM...
MAYBE YOU
COULD
PROTECT US.

The
BIKE
RIDE

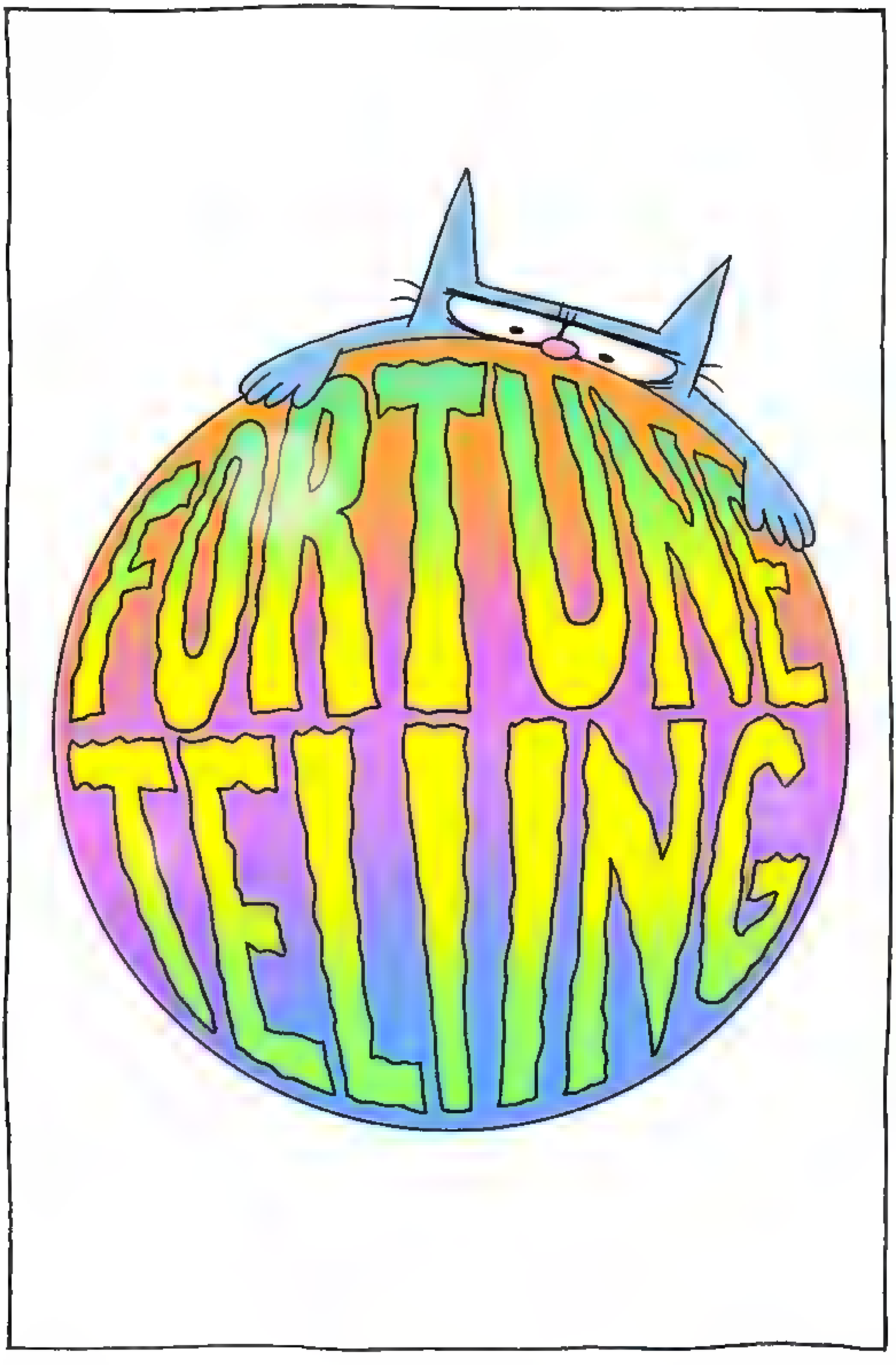
I'M OFF ON MY BIG RIDE, CATWAD.
BE CAREFUL AND OBEY THE SIGNS.
OKAY!
I'M BORN TO RIDE.
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK



BLURMP, IT'S STARTING TO GET LATE. IS EVERYTHING OKAY?


I'M FINE, BUT I'VE BEEN STUCK HERE FOR ABOUT AN HOUR.
WHY ARE YOU STUCK?

I'M WAITING FOR THE STOP SIGN TO CHANGE TO GO.
STOP


FORTUNE
TELLING

WHAT'S GOING ON IN HERE?
PLEASE, COME IN AND BE SEATED.

And I will predict your future.

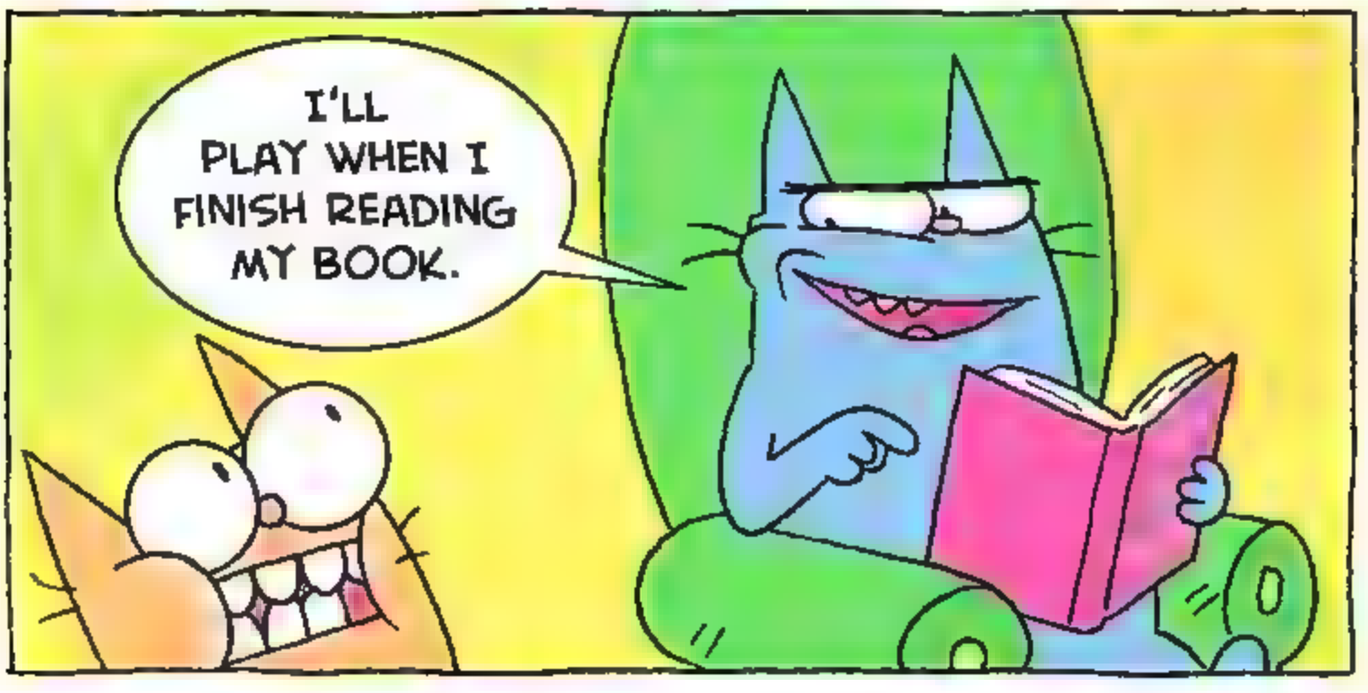
OKAY. TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE.

One of the things I see is you telling me that this is a bunch of stupid nonsense.
WELL, IT IS A BUNCH OF STUPID NONSENSE.
AND I PREDICTED YOU WOULD SAY THAT.
SO IT'S NOT NONSENSE.

THAT WAS JUST A LUCKY GUESS.
IT WAS?
YES. THIS FORTUNE-TELLING IS JUST A BUNCH OF GARBAGE.
THAT'S A RELIEF.
I WAS REALLY WORRIED ABOUT THE DINOSAUR PART.
THE WHAT?

HEY, CATWAD! COME PLAY DINOSAURS WITH ME!
NO, I HATE THAT.

PLEASE


I'LL PLAY WHEN I FINISH READING MY BOOK.

I'LL WAIT HERE UNTIL YOU'RE DONE.
OKAY, BUT IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG TIME.
I'LL WAIT.
FINE.
IT'S BEEN TEN HOURS.
THAT'S OKAY. I'LL WAIT.

WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO JUST GO DO SOMETHING ELSE?
NOPE.
I'LL WAIT.
WELL, I CAN READ A LOT LONGER THAN YOU CAN WAIT.

BIG.
BIG.
BIG.
BIG.
AAAAGH!
IT'S BEEN EIGHTY YEARS! I GIVE UP! I'LL PLAY DINOSAURS.
BIG.

OH, I'M TOO OLD TO PLAY DINOSAURS.
LET'S JUST SIT HERE AND READ.

DIGITAL
COMICS
PRESERVATION